

Thoughtshots from *The Old Woman Who Named Things* by Cynthia Rylant (Harcourt, 1996)

(See the full text to determine exactly which lines of text you want to use for your lesson.)

Thoughtshot #1 (Internal Dialogue or Flash-Ahead) from page 14:

It was a very pretty puppy, she thought. But it couldn't stay.
If it stayed, she would have to give it a name.
And it could never last as long as Franklin or Fred or Betsy or Roxanne.

Thoughtshot #2 (Internal Dialogue) from page 21:

The old woman sat and thought about the shy brown dog who had no collar with a name. Wherever it was, no one would know that it was supposed to come to the old woman's gate every day, that she was supposed to feed it and tell it to go home every day, that things were always supposed to be this way.

Thoughtshot #3 (Flashback) from page 24:

The old woman thought a moment. She thought of all the old, dear friends with names whom she had outlived. She saw their smiling faces and remembered their lovely names, and she thought how lucky she had been to have known these friends.