I’m Sorry, But I’m Not

**Reading the Model**

*Directions:* Please read the following poem and answer the questions about it. We will also discuss these as a class.

**This Is Just To Say**

William Carlos Williams, 1883 - 1963

I have eaten

the plums

that were in

the icebox

and which

you were probably

saving

for breakfast

Forgive me

they were delicious

so sweet

and so cold

1. What is the tone of “This is Just to Say?” What words or phrases give you that impression?
2. What is unique or interesting about the way this poem is structured? What do you notice about it when you look at it?
3. What do you think the poet’s purpose was in this poem? Why do you think that?

**Writing Your Own Poem**

*Directions:* Please complete the following steps to write a poem of your own using “This is Just to Say” as a model.

1. What do you think some of the essential parts or characteristics of this poem are? List a few.
2. What is something that you should feel bad about, but you actually don’t? You can list several things to give yourself a wide selection to choose from.
3. Think of a character in a book, movie, comic, video game, or other text that should feel bad about something, but probably doesn’t. Make a list of several.
4. Think about an animal, thing, or object that should feel bad about something, but probably doesn’t. Make a list of several.

**Write Your Own:** Use one of the ideas you listed above to write a short poem in the style of “This is Just to Say.” Make sure you give it a unique title.