

Raised Hand Funnels

To help children understand why raising hands is expected of them in class, bring in a funnel and hold it in your hand in the air. Explain that a raised hand is like a funnel for your thoughts. When the teacher asks a question, sometimes what you call out is not what you should, or even want, to say.

For example, if the teacher asks who the first president was, you may call out an embarrassing answer, like Abraham Lincoln. Raising your hand and waiting gives you time to funnel out that wrong answer and think of the correct one, before you embarrass yourself in front of your classmates.

You may feel like being silly and call out, “Me!” But that would be distracting to your classmates and may get you into trouble.

You may let out a rude answer by accident, like asking how it’s possible for anyone to not know that. This is showing bad manners to your classmates. Raising your hand helps you filter out that inconsiderate answer.

You may feel like asking something off-topic, like when you may go to the bathroom. But leaving your hand raised will help you remember how and when is the appropriate way to ask for that.

Keeping your hand up slows down your tongue from calling out something that you will regret. By the time you get called on, you will know exactly what to say...George Washington!

Your raised hand is like a funnel that helps you filter out which thoughts stay inside, and which ones are worth saying.

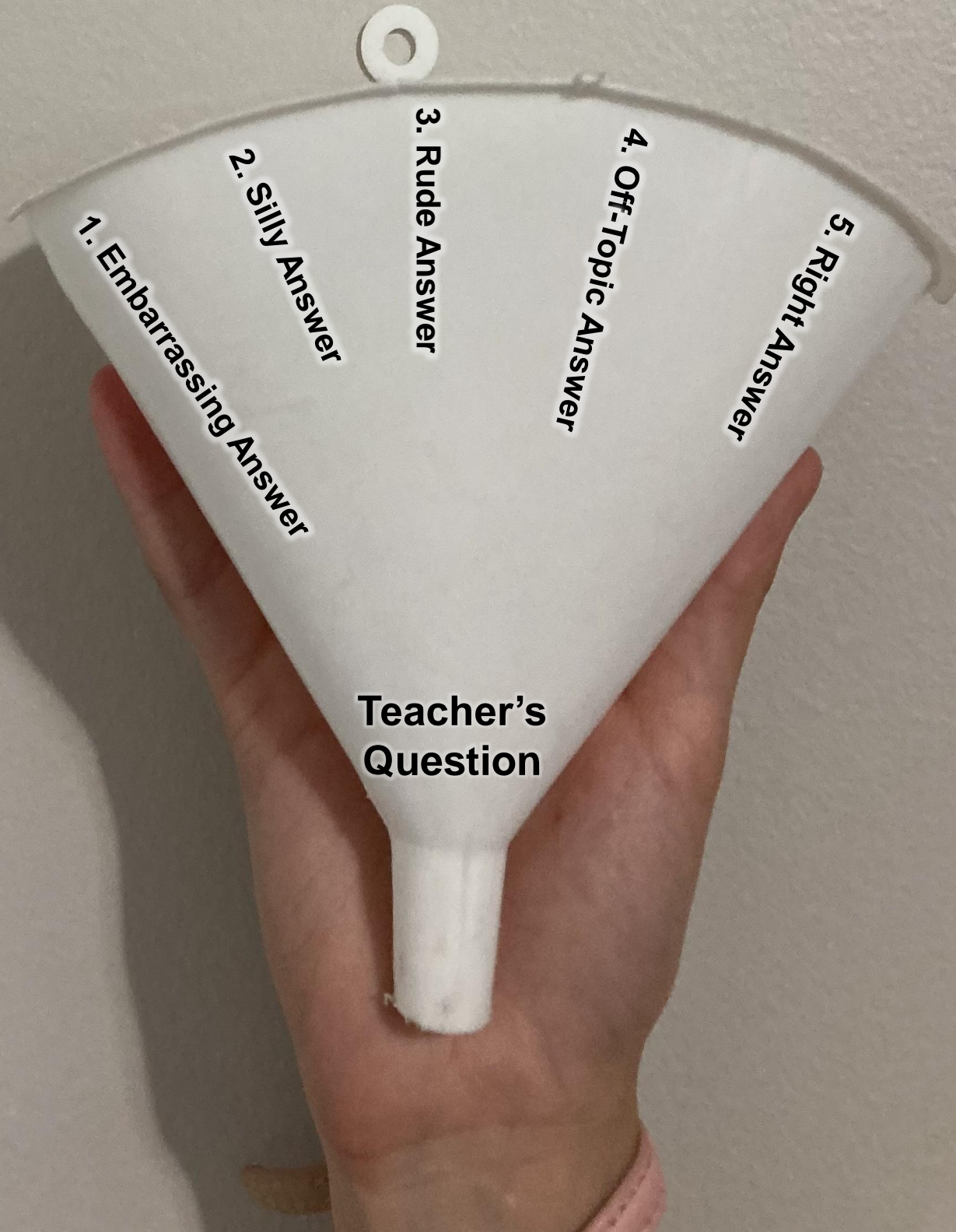
To further demonstrate this, have children make their own paper funnels. Have them write out five answers to some basic questions on the attached template. Then, have them only let the correct one through.

Children can also trace their hands on paper and write out their five answers. Have them demonstrate folding down the first four fingers, and only keeping up the fifth, with the correct answer.

Embarrassing	Abraham Lincoln
Silly	Me
Rude	Who doesn’t know that!
Off-Topic	Can I go to the bathroom?
Right	George Washington 😊

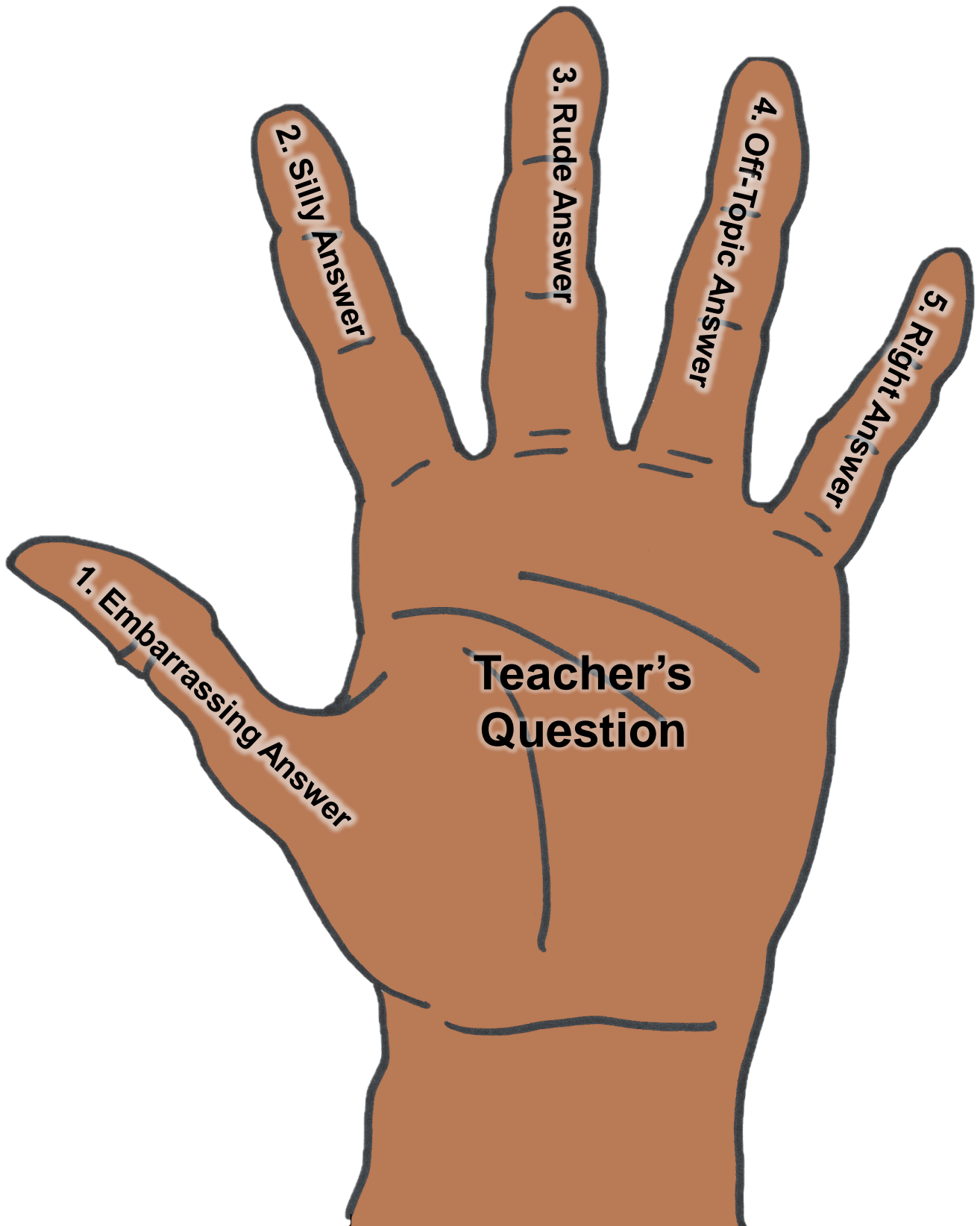
Question:	
Embarrassing:	
Silly:	
Rude:	
Off-Topic:	
Right:	
Question:	
Embarrassing:	
Silly:	
Rude:	
Off-Topic:	
Right:	

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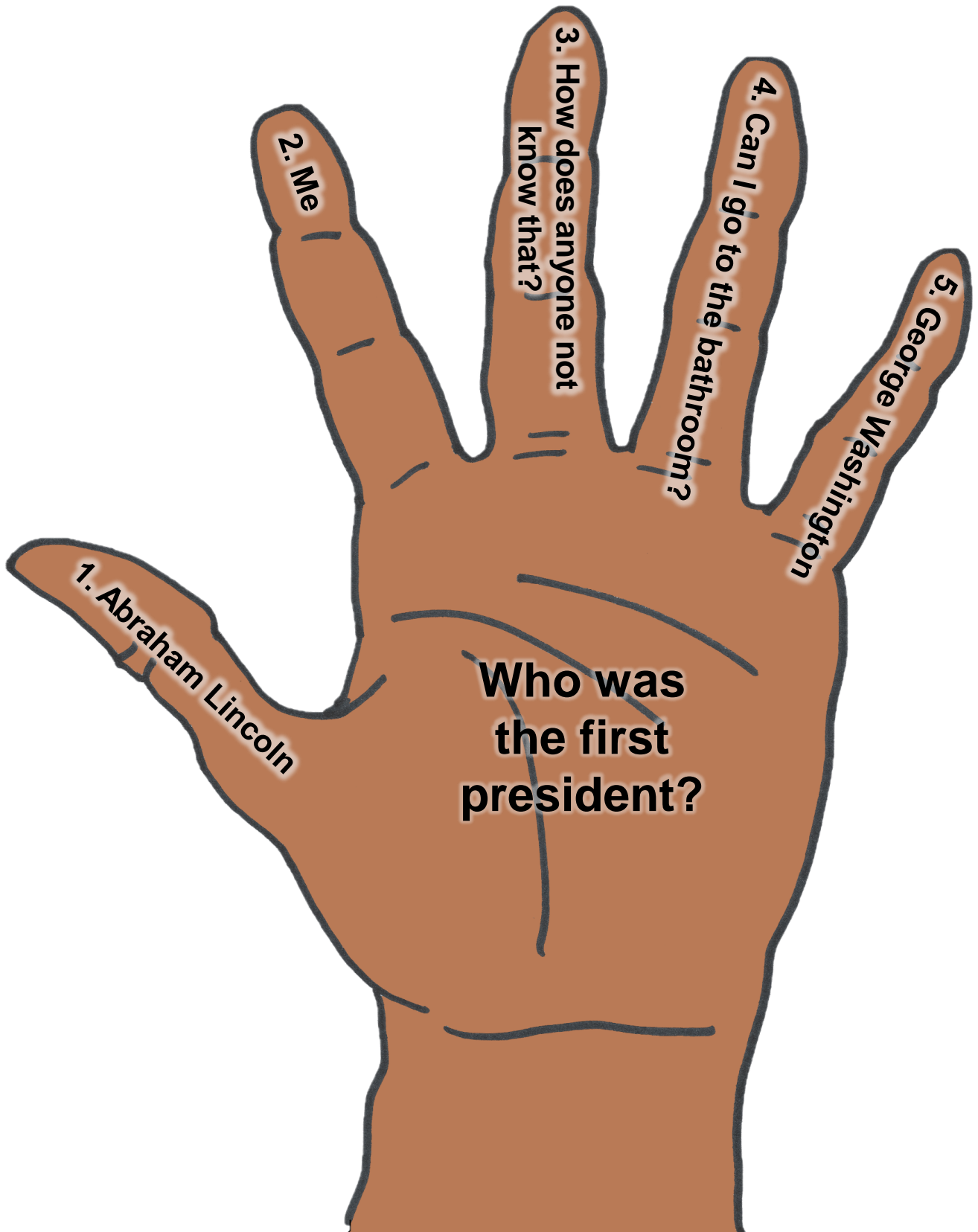


**Teacher's
Question**

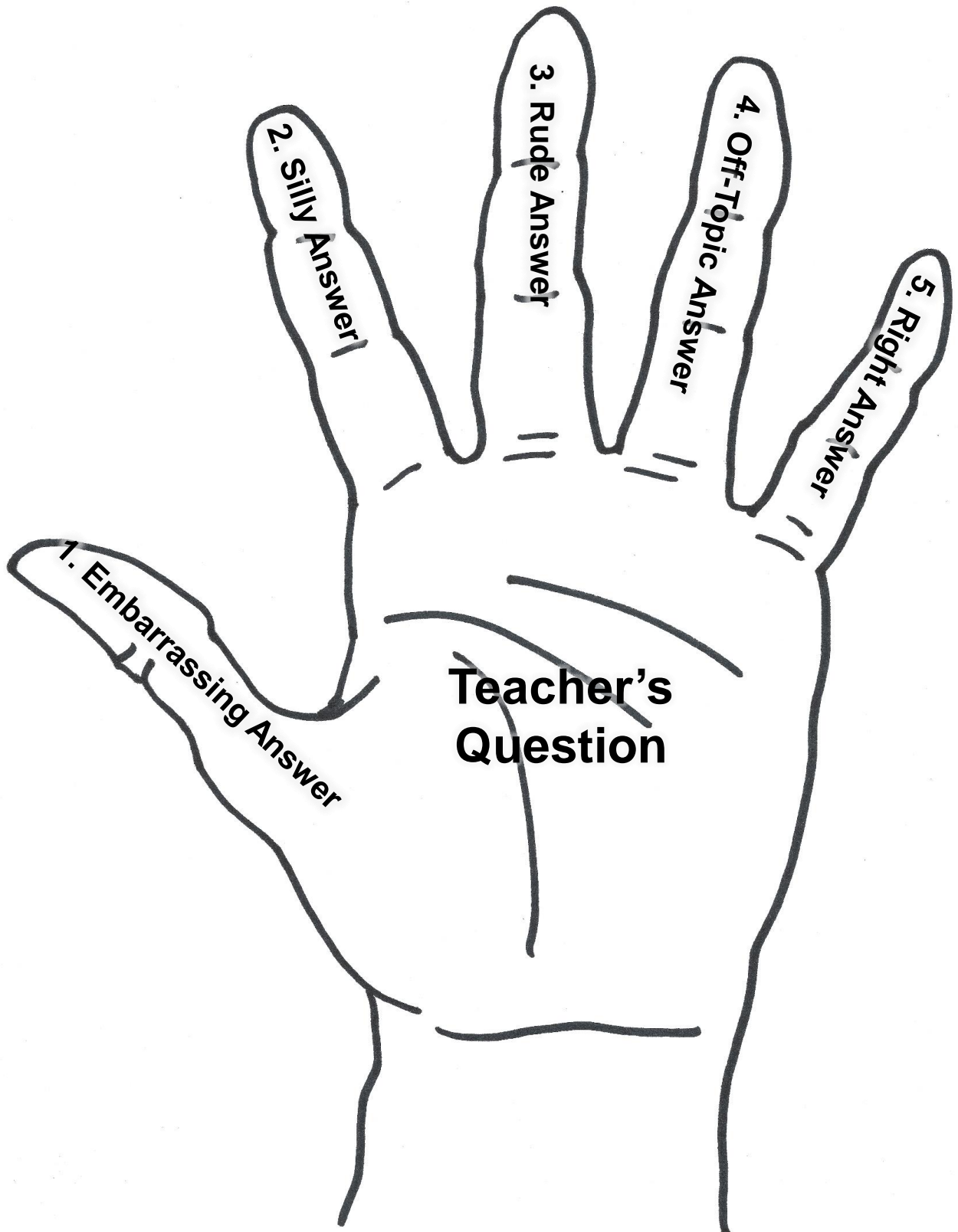
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