

EXACT TEKS WORDING (FROM TEA)

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

Authors choose each word on purpose to say exactly what they mean.

When I notice a strong word, I ask what it shows and why the author chose it.

Choosing precise words makes my own writing clear and interesting.

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Precise Verbs

from “**Life Along the Nile River**”

A precise verb tells exactly how an action happens, so the reader can picture it.

This deck teaches **word choice** across the five RPLD thinking levels:

NOTICE → CHOOSE → SHOW → OWN → DEFEND.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

NOTICE

“I can notice a precise verb.”

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Notice the precise verb.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the precise verb the author chose.

“It flowed through the desert from south to north before emptying into the Mediterranean Sea.”

I CAN I can notice the precise verb an author chooses.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

"I can choose the strongest word."

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Choose the strongest word.

Read the sentence. Which word is the author's precise verb?

"Merchants traded goods between villages and cities."

A. Merchants B. traded C. goods

I CAN I can choose the precise verb and explain how I know.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

SHOW

“I can explain what a word shows.”

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Show what the word does.

What does the underlined word help the reader understand?

“Merchants traded goods between villages and cities.”

I CAN I can explain what the author's word helps the reader picture or feel.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

OWN

"I can revise with a stronger word."

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Own it. Revise a sentence.

Revise the plain sentence. Replace the vague verb with a precise verb.

Plain sentence: People moved things on the river.

Replace the word moved with a stronger word.

I CAN I can revise a plain sentence by choosing a stronger word.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

DEFEND

“I can explain why the author chose a word.”

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Defend the author's choice.

Why did the author choose exchanged instead of gave?

“Merchants exchanged food, tools, cloth, and other supplies with different communities.”

Why exchanged and not gave?

I CAN I can explain why an author's word choice is better than a plain word.

Find a precise verb on your own.

Go back to the passage. Find one more precise verb. Copy the words and explain what they show.

Go back to the reading.

Find one more precise verb.

**Copy the exact words. Then explain what the word shows
and why the author chose it.**

I CAN I can find a precise verb and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

flowed. Flowed tells exactly how the water moved, slowly and steadily through the land.

CHOOSE

B. traded. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Traded tells exactly what the merchants did. They exchanged goods with one another, not just moved them.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: People transported goods along the river.

DEFEND

Exchanged tells the reader the merchants gave and received goods with one another. The plain word gave only shows one direction and misses the back-and-forth nature of trade.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Farmers planned their planting seasons around the flood cycle.” The word planned works well. Planned shows the farmers thinking ahead and organizing their work around the.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

As trade and farming improved, cities along the Nile became larger and stronger. Markets, temples, and homes appeared throughout the region.

Which word could replace 'appeared' and keep almost the same meaning?

A vanished

B remained

C hovered

D emerged

The answer is D.

- A** **vanished**
Vanished means to disappear, which is the opposite of appeared.
- B** **remained**
Remained means to stay in place. It does not show something new coming into the region.
- C** **hovered**
Hovered means to float in one spot. Buildings do not hover.
- D** **emerged**
Correct. Emerged means to come into view or develop, which keeps the meaning that new structures began showing up.