

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

Vivid Adjectives

from “Carmen Lomas Garza”

A vivid adjective describes a noun with exact detail so the reader can picture it clearly.

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 vivid adjective.”

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Notice the vivid adjective.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the vivid describing word the author chose.

“Her artwork uses bright colors and clear details to tell stories.”

I CAN I can notice the vivid adjective 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 vivid adjective?

“Viewers may notice smiling faces, colorful decorations, and busy family gatherings.”

A. smiling B. colorful C. decorations

I CAN I can choose the vivid adjective 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?

“Viewers may notice smiling faces, colorful decorations, and busy family gatherings.”

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 weak describing word with a vivid adjective.

Plain sentence: The painting showed a nice family event.

Replace the word nice 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 lasting instead of some?

“Her paintings show that history can be found in everyday experiences and that even simple moments can have lasting meaning.”

Why lasting and not some?

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

Find a vivid adjective on your own.

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

Go back to the reading.

Find one more vivid adjective.

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

I CAN I can find a vivid adjective and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

bright. Bright paints a picture of bold, glowing colors that stand out, not dull or faded ones.

CHOOSE

B. colorful. It describes a noun with exact detail the reader can picture.

SHOW

Colorful paints a picture of many vivid colors filling the decorations, making the scene feel lively.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The painting showed a joyful family celebration.

DEFEND

Lasting paints a picture of meaning that stretches forward through time and never fades. The plain word some does not show how long or how deeply the meaning endures.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “These simple moments may seem ordinary, but Garza believed they were valuable parts of culture and history.” The word valuable works well. Valuable paints a picture of.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Family members often gather around a table to prepare ingredients, wrap tamales, and spend time together. While this activity may seem simple, it represents an important tradition shared by many families.

The word ‘important’ helps the reader understand that the tradition of making tamales is

- A** easy for anyone to learn how to do
- B** meaningful and worth remembering
- C** required by all family members
- D** only done during one specific holiday

The answer is B.

- A easy for anyone to learn how to do**
Important describes value, not difficulty. The passage does not say making tamales is easy.
- B meaningful and worth remembering**
Correct. Important shows the tradition matters to families and should be remembered, even though it may look simple.
- C required by all family members**
The passage says family members gather to make tamales, but it does not say it is required.
- D only done during one specific holiday**
The passage says during the holidays but does not limit it to one single holiday.