

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 “Why We Need Laws”

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.

“Disagreements spread like storms across the town,”

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?

"Some rules protected homes and growing land, While others helped communities to stand."

A. protected B. homes C. growing

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?

"Some rules protected homes and growing land, While others helped communities to stand."

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: The town had some roads.

Replace the word some 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 tumble instead of go?

“And fairness often seemed to tumble down.”

Why tumble and not go?

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

spread. Spread tells exactly how disagreements moved outward, reaching more and more people like a storm.

CHOOSE

A. protected. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Protected tells exactly what the rules did. They guarded homes and land, keeping them safe from harm.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The town had crowded, winding roads.

DEFEND

Tumble tells exactly how fairness fell apart, crashing downward. The plain word go is too vague to show that sudden collapse.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “People vote and serve when called for jury duty, Helping their communities through civic responsibility.” The word serve works well. Serve tells exactly what citizens do..

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

They guided trade and settled each dispute, So problems would not grow from branch to root.

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

A started

B ignored

C resolved

D created

The answer is C.

- A started**
Started means to begin something. Settled means to end or resolve a disagreement, which is the opposite.
- B ignored**
Ignored means to pay no attention. Settled means to deal with the problem and find a solution.
- C resolved**
Correct. Resolved means to find an answer to a disagreement, which keeps almost the same meaning as settled.
- D created**
Created means to make something new. Settled means to end a dispute, not start one.