

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

Connotation

from “**Sam Walton: Visionary of Retail**”

Connotation is the feeling a word carries. Two words can mean almost the same thing but feel positive or negative.

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 word with a strong feeling.”

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Notice the word with a strong feeling.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the word that carries a strong feeling.

“Money was often tight, and young Sam helped by delivering newspapers, milking cows, and doing small jobs to earn extra money.”

I CAN I can notice the word with a strong feeling 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 carries the strongest feeling?

"His plan was simple but bold."

A. simple B. bold C. plan

I CAN I can choose the word with a strong feeling 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?

“His plan was simple but bold.”

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 neutral word with a word that carries a clear feeling.

Plain sentence: Sam had a different idea.

Replace the word different 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 struggled instead of worked?

“The Great Depression was a time when many people across the United States struggled financially.”

Why struggled and not worked?

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

Find a word with a strong feeling on your own.

Go back to the passage. Find one more word with a strong feeling. Copy the words and explain what they show.

Go back to the reading.

Find one more word with a strong feeling.

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

I CAN I can find a word with a strong feeling and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

tight. Tight carries a negative, strained feeling, showing the family barely had enough money and had to be very careful.

CHOOSE

B. bold. It carries a clear positive or negative feeling, not just a plain meaning.

SHOW

Bold carries a positive feeling of bravery and confidence, showing Sam took a big risk that most people would not.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: Sam had a daring idea.

DEFEND

Struggled carries a negative feeling of barely getting by. The plain word worked sounds neutral and does not show the suffering families experienced during the Great Depression.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “His willingness to work hard, learn from others, and focus on customers helped turn a small store in Arkansas into one of the most successful companies in history.” The.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Sam Walton's determination and creativity helped transform retail shopping in the United States. His business created jobs, expanded shopping opportunities, and made products more affordable for many families.

The word 'transform' suggests that Sam Walton's ideas

- A** made only small, temporary changes to stores
- B** confused shoppers about where to buy products
- C** copied what other store owners had already done
- D** completely changed the way people shopped

The answer is D.

- A** **made only small, temporary changes to stores**
Transform means a complete change, not a small or temporary one.
- B** **confused shoppers about where to buy products**
Transform means to change for the better. It does not suggest confusion.
- C** **copied what other store owners had already done**
Transform means creating major change, not copying existing ideas.
- D** **completely changed the way people shopped**
Correct. Transform means to change in a big, lasting way, showing Sam's ideas reshaped retail shopping.