

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 “The Good Citizen”

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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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.

““You are becoming one of our most dependable volunteers,” the manager said.”

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?

"A terrible feeling rushed over her."

A. terrible B. feeling C. rushed

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?

“A terrible feeling rushed over her.”

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: Maya felt bad about forgetting.

Replace the word bad 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 guilty instead of bad?

"Feeling guilty, Maya rushed to the food storage area."

Why guilty and not bad?

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

dependable. Dependable carries a strong positive feeling of being trustworthy and reliable, showing Maya can be counted on.

CHOOSE

A. terrible. It carries a clear positive or negative feeling, not just a plain meaning.

SHOW

Terrible carries a very strong negative feeling, showing Maya feels deeply upset and scared about what she forgot.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: Maya felt ashamed about forgetting.

DEFEND

Guilty carries a negative feeling of personal responsibility, showing Maya knows the mistake was her fault. The plain word bad could mean anything from a stomachache to a rainy day.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “The puppy looked happy and content.” The word content works well. Content carries a calm, satisfied positive feeling, showing Rusty is full and comfortable after eating.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

She realized that good citizenship was about more than completing tasks. It was about being dependable.

The word ‘citizenship’ suggests that Maya is learning about

- A** how to take care of animals at the dog shelter
- B** how to finish her homework on time every night
- C** being a responsible member of a community
- D** how to ride her bike faster to the shelter

The answer is C.

- A** **how to take care of animals at the dog shelter**
Citizenship is about being part of a community, not just animal care.
- B** **how to finish her homework on time every night**
The passage is about responsibility in the community, not schoolwork.
- C** **being a responsible member of a community**
Correct. Citizenship carries a positive feeling of belonging and responsibility in a community.
- D** **how to ride her bike faster to the shelter**
Citizenship is about responsibility and community, not speed.