

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 “**MLK: A Dream Can Grow**”

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.

“Each person with a hopeful face.”

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?

“But I understood the word called hope, A steady thread, a shining rope.”

A. hope B. shining C. rope

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?

“But I understood the word called hope, A steady thread, a shining rope.”

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: People wanted things to be different.

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 kindness instead of help?

"It entered classrooms, homes, and streets, And lived wherever kindness meets."

Why kindness and not help?

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

hopeful. Hopeful carries a warm positive feeling, showing the crowd believes something better is coming.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Shining carries a bright, positive feeling of hope that lights up the darkness and guides the way forward.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: People wanted things to be better.

DEFEND

Kindness carries a gentle, warm positive feeling of caring deeply about others. The plain word help only describes an action and does not show the tender emotion behind it.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “A dream can be a lantern bright, That helps us find our way at night.” The word bright works well. Bright carries a positive, glowing feeling of hope and clarity, showing.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

It travels when we make some room For someone waiting near the room. It travels when we choose to hear A softer voice that others fear.

The word ‘fear’ helps the reader understand that some people

- A** enjoy listening to quiet voices around them
- B** do not notice the quiet voices around them
- C** are afraid to listen to different voices
- D** believe louder voices are always wrong

The answer is C.

- A** **enjoy listening to quiet voices around them**
Fear is a negative feeling. It does not mean people enjoy listening to softer voices.
- B** **do not notice the quiet voices around them**
Fear means being afraid, not failing to notice. The poem says others fear, not others miss.
- C** **are afraid to listen to different voices**
Correct. Fear means being scared, showing that listening to a different voice takes courage.
- D** **believe louder voices are always wrong**
The poem does not say loud voices are wrong. It says some people fear softer voices.