

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

Specific Nouns

from “A Place to Grow”

A specific noun names exactly which person, place, thing, or idea, instead of a general word like thing or place.

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 specific noun.”

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Notice the specific noun.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the specific noun the author chose.

“That place might be beside a river, near a forest, across a wide plain, or close to a harbor.”

I CAN I can notice the specific noun 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 most specific noun?

"Farmers dig irrigation channels to carry water toward crops."

A. Farmers B. irrigation channels C. crops

I CAN I can choose the specific noun 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?

“Farmers dig irrigation channels to carry water toward crops.”

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 general noun with a specific noun.

Plain sentence: People used things to bring water to their food.

Replace the word things 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 copper instead of metal?

“Archaeologists have also found stone and copper from distant regions.”

Why copper and not metal?

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

Find a specific noun on your own.

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

Go back to the reading.

Find one more specific noun.

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

I CAN I can find a specific noun and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

harbor. Harbor names a specific kind of water feature where ships can dock safely, instead of a vague word like area or place.

CHOOSE

B. irrigation channels. It names exactly who or what, instead of a general word like thing or place.

SHOW

Irrigation channels names the exact structures farmers build for water, instead of a vague word like paths.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: People used canals to bring water to their crops.

DEFEND

Copper names the exact material archaeologists found at the ancient site. The plain word metal is too vague because there are many different kinds of metal.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Fresh water was nearby. Forests provided timber that could be used for shelters and fires.” The word timber works well. Timber names the specific resource from forests.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

The land may be green and fertile, dry and rocky, cold and snowy, or warm and sunny. Wherever people live, the geography around them creates both opportunities and challenges.

What does the word ‘geography’ help the reader understand?

- A** The natural features of a place shape how people live.
- B** People should move to places with better weather.
- C** Maps are the most important tool in history.
- D** All communities look and operate the same way.

The answer is A.

- A The natural features of a place shape how people live.**
Correct. Geography names the study of land and natural features that shape communities.
- B People should move to places with better weather.**
The passage discusses how people adapt to different environments, not that they should move.
- C Maps are the most important tool in history.**
Geography includes more than maps. It covers land, water, climate, and resources.
- D All communities look and operate the same way.**
The passage explains that communities in different places often look and operate differently.