

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 “A Place to Grow”

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.

“People adapted their homes, work, transportation, and daily routines to the environments in which they lived.”

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?

"Builders construct roads and bridges."

A. Builders B. construct C. bridges

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?

“Builders construct roads and bridges.”

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: People did things to help their town grow.

Replace the word did 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 establish instead of start?

“After crossing the Atlantic Ocean on the Mayflower, they needed a place where they could establish their settlement.”

Why establish and not start?

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

adapted. Adapted tells exactly what people did. They changed their habits and tools to fit the place where they lived.

CHOOSE

B. construct. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Construct tells exactly what builders do. They put materials together piece by piece to create structures.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: People built roads to help their town grow.

DEFEND

Establish tells the reader that the settlers built a permanent community from the ground up. The plain word start does not show all the effort and planning that went into creating a new settlement.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Frontier families stored food and fuel for winter.” The word stored works well. Stored tells exactly what the families did. They saved supplies and kept them in a safe.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Most ancient Egyptians settled near the Nile because the river provided resources that were difficult to find in the surrounding desert.

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

- A** moved from place to place over time
- B** chose a place to live and built homes
- C** went somewhere for a short visit only
- D** looked around a new area to explore

The answer is B.

- A moved from place to place over time**
Traveled means moving from place to place. Settled means choosing one place to stay and build a home.
- B chose a place to live and built homes**
Correct. Settled means choosing a place to stay and building there, keeping the meaning.
- C went somewhere for a short visit only**
Visited means going somewhere temporarily. Settled means staying permanently.
- D looked around a new area to explore**
Explored means looking around a new area. Settled means stopping and building a permanent community.