

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

Vivid Adjectives

from “A Place to Grow”

A vivid adjective describes a noun with exact detail so the reader can picture it clearly.

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 vivid adjective.”

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Notice the vivid adjective.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the vivid describing word the author chose.

“The land may be green and fertile, dry and rocky, cold and snowy, or warm and sunny.”

I CAN I can notice the vivid adjective 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 vivid adjective?

"A desert may have valuable resources but little water."

A. desert B. valuable C. resources

I CAN I can choose the vivid adjective 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 desert may have valuable resources but little water.”

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 weak describing word with a vivid adjective.

Plain sentence: The river left good soil behind.

Replace the word good 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 rocky instead of rough?

“The land may be green and fertile, dry and rocky, cold and snowy, or warm and sunny.”

Why rocky and not rough?

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

Find a vivid adjective on your own.

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

Go back to the reading.

Find one more vivid adjective.

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

I CAN I can find a vivid adjective and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

fertile. Fertile paints a picture of rich, productive soil where crops can grow easily, unlike a plain word like good.

CHOOSE

B. valuable. It describes a noun with exact detail the reader can picture.

SHOW

Valuable paints a picture of resources that are worth a great deal and hard to replace, not just any resources.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The river left rich, dark soil behind.

DEFEND

Rocky paints a picture of hard ground covered with stones, where crops are hard to grow. The plain word rough does not show what makes the land hard to farm.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Poverty Point was an important ancient site in what is now Louisiana.” The word ancient works well. Ancient paints a picture of something from thousands of years ago.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Long before trucks, airplanes, or modern highways existed, people found ways to move valuable items over great distances.

The word 'great' helps the reader understand that the distances were

- A** short enough to walk in one day
- B** easy to travel because roads were smooth
- C** impossible for ancient people to cross
- D** very long, stretching across many miles

The answer is D.

- A short enough to walk in one day**
Great means very large, not short. The passage describes long journeys.
- B easy to travel because roads were smooth**
Great describes how far people traveled, not how easy the roads were.
- C impossible for ancient people to cross**
The passage says people found ways to move items, so the distances were not impossible.
- D very long, stretching across many miles**
Correct. Great means extremely large, showing the distances people traveled were very long and impressive.