

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 “Dream”

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.

“His voice was powerful, confident, and steady as it traveled across the gathering.”

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?

"I was only eight years old, and everything around me seemed important, exciting, and unforgettable."

A. important B. unforgettable C. exciting

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?

“I was only eight years old, and everything around me seemed important, exciting, and unforgettable.”

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: The speaker said his words to the crowd.

Replace the word said 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 exhausted instead of tired?

“My feet still hurt, and I was exhausted from the long afternoon, but I did not complain.”

Why exhausted and not tired?

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

powerful. Powerful has a positive feeling of great strength and importance, showing respect for Dr. King.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Unforgettable carries a strong positive feeling that this moment is so special it will stay with the narrator forever.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The speaker declared his words to the crowd.

DEFEND

Exhausted shows that the narrator is completely drained of energy after hours of standing. The plain word tired would not show how deeply worn out the narrator feels.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “I pictured a classroom where every student felt welcome and appreciated.” The word appreciated works well. Appreciated carries a warm positive feeling of being truly.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Maybe I would remember the enormous crowd or the peaceful singing. Maybe I would remember the impressive white columns of the Lincoln Memorial rising above us.

The word 'impressive' helps the reader understand that the columns are

- A so grand and tall that they fill the narrator with awe
- B painted white so the audience can easily see them
- C much taller than every other building in the area
- D hard to see because they are so far away

The answer is **A**.

- A** **so grand and tall that they fill the narrator with awe**
Correct. Impressive means causing admiration. The narrator looks up at the columns with awe.
- B** **painted white so the audience can easily see them**
White describes the color, but impressive is about the feeling the columns create, not their paint.
- C** **much taller than every other building in the area**
The excerpt does not compare the columns to other buildings.
- D** **hard to see because they are so far away**
Impressive means admirable, not distant or hard to see.