

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 “Serve”

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.

“Grandpa smiled, folded his hands, and leaned back in his chair.”

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?

“I underlined that sentence in my notebook.”

A. underlined B. sentence C. notebook

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?

“I underlined that sentence in my notebook.”

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: The teacher did something on the board.

Replace the word did something 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 pointed instead of looked?

“Grandpa pointed at me.”

Why pointed and not looked?

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

folded. Folded tells exactly how Grandpa placed his hands, pressing them neatly together.

CHOOSE

A. underlined. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Underlined tells exactly what the narrator did with the pen, drawing a line beneath important words.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The teacher sketched a diagram on the board.

DEFEND

Pointed shows Grandpa aiming his finger directly at the narrator with energy. The plain word looked would not show that physical gesture of emphasis.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “I tapped my pencil against my notebook.” The word tapped works well. Tapped shows a light, repeated hitting motion, revealing that the narrator is thinking.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

I picked up my pen again and wrote one final sentence at the bottom of the page.

The word 'final' helps the reader understand that this sentence is

- A** the longest sentence in the notebook
- B** the last important thought the narrator recorded
- C** the most difficult sentence to write
- D** a sentence the narrator copied from Grandpa

The answer is **B**.

- A** **the longest sentence in the notebook**
Final means last, not longest. The excerpt says nothing about length.
- B** **the last important thought the narrator recorded**
Correct. Final means the last one, and placing it at the bottom shows the narrator chose it as a closing thought.
- C** **the most difficult sentence to write**
The excerpt does not say the sentence was hard to write.
- D** **a sentence the narrator copied from Grandpa**
The narrator writes the sentence in their own words.