

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 Promise Written Long Ago”

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.

“In the year 1215, a very important document called the Magna Carta was created in a place called Runnymede, England.”

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?

“Barons were wealthy landowners who controlled large areas of land throughout England.”

A. wealthy B. barons C. landowners

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?

“Barons were wealthy landowners who controlled large areas of land throughout England.”

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: The leader signed a thing at the meeting.

Replace the word thing 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 Bill of Rights instead of paper?

“The Bill of Rights protects important freedoms and guarantees certain legal protections.”

Why Bill of Rights and not paper?

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

Magna Carta. Magna Carta names the exact historical document instead of just calling it a paper or agreement.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Barons names the specific group of powerful landowners, not just people or leaders.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The leader signed a treaty at the meeting.

DEFEND

Bill of Rights names the specific American document that protects freedoms. The plain word paper would not tell which document or why it matters.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “King John met the barons at Runnymede, a grassy meadow beside the River Thames.” The word meadow works well. Meadow names an open field of grass, painting a clearer.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Many people believed these taxes were unfair. They felt they were being forced to pay more and more money while receiving little in return. As frustration grew, trust in the king began to decline.

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

A improve

B decrease

C remain

D return

The answer is **B**.

- A improve**
Improve means get better, the opposite of what happened to trust.
- B decrease**
Correct. Decline means to go down or get weaker, same as decrease.
- C remain**
Remain means stay the same. Trust was dropping, not staying steady.
- D return**
Return means come back. Trust was shrinking, not returning.