

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 “A Lone Star Choice”

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

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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.

“Others worried what might come,”

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?

“Trying to choose with care and pride.”

A. care B. pride C. choose

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?

“Trying to choose with care and pride.”

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 people felt bad about the future.

Replace the word bad 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 hopeless instead of unsure?

“Some were hopeful, while others felt hopeless.”

Why hopeless and not unsure?

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

worried. Worried carries a negative feeling of fear and concern about the future.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Pride carries a positive feeling of self-respect and confidence in their decision.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The people felt anxious about the future.

DEFEND

Hopeless carries a deeply negative shade meaning all hope is gone. The plain word unsure only means not certain, which is much weaker.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Though opinions did not agree, People spoke respectfully.” The word respectfully works well. Respectfully carries a positive feeling of treating others with courtesy even.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

People shared opinions near and far, In towns, on ranches, and by the bar. The future seemed unclear to many, Though hopes and concerns were both plenty.

The word 'concerns' suggests that people felt

- A** angry about losing their land
- B** excited about the changes ahead
- C** uneasy about what might happen next
- D** certain that statehood would fail

The answer is C.

- A** **angry about losing their land**
Concerns means worries, not anger. The excerpt does not mention losing land.
- B** **excited about the changes ahead**
Concerns carry a worried feeling, not excitement.
- C** **uneasy about what might happen next**
Correct. Concerns means worries about the future, and uneasy fits that feeling.
- D** **certain that statehood would fail**
The excerpt says the future seemed unclear, not that people were certain of failure.