

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 “**Looking Back to Move Forward**”

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

Notice the precise verb.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the precise verb the author chose.

“Ava leaned forward as her teacher showed a painting on the board.”

I CAN I can notice the precise verb an author chooses.

TODAY'S THINKING JOB

CHOOSE

"I can choose the strongest word."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

"revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity"

Choose the strongest word.

Read the sentence. Which word is the author's precise verb?

"Mrs. Lopez zoomed in on one part of the painting."

A. zoomed B. part C. painting

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

Show what the word does.

What does the underlined word help the reader understand?

“Mrs. Lopez zoomed in on one part of the painting.”

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."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

"revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity"

Own it. Revise a sentence.

Revise the plain sentence. Replace the vague verb with a precise verb.

Plain sentence: The student looked at the picture.

Replace the word looked 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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

Defend the author's choice.

Why did the author choose tapped instead of hit?

“Ava tapped her pencil against her notebook.”

Why tapped and not hit?

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

leaned. Leaned tells exactly how Ava moved her body: tilting forward with interest and curiosity.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Zoomed tells exactly what the teacher did: making one section larger so students could see small details.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The student studied the picture.

DEFEND

Tapped shows Ava lightly touching her pencil against the notebook while thinking. The plain word hit would suggest a harder, louder motion that does not match her thoughtful moment.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “She imagined soft footsteps on stone floors. She imagined pages turning.” The word imagined works well. Imagined tells exactly what Ava did: creating a picture in her mind.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

A few people seemed to be listening carefully, while others seemed ready to answer a question.

What does the word 'carefully' help the reader understand about the listening?

- A** The figures in the painting were afraid of making mistakes.
- B** The figures did not want to be overheard by others.
- C** The figures were pretending to listen even though they were bored.
- D** The figures were paying very close attention to what was being said.

The answer is **D**.

- A** **The figures in the painting were afraid of making mistakes.**
Carefully here means paying close attention, not being afraid.
- B** **The figures did not want to be overheard by others.**
The excerpt describes people listening with attention, not trying to stay quiet.
- C** **The figures were pretending to listen even though they were bored.**
Carefully means giving full attention, the opposite of pretending.
- D** **The figures were paying very close attention to what was being said.**
Correct. Carefully means with full attention and focus, showing deep engagement with the speaker.