

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

Vivid Adjectives

from “Voices That Shaped Texas”

A vivid adjective describes a noun with exact detail so the reader can picture it clearly.

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 vivid adjective.”

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Notice the vivid adjective.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the vivid describing word the author chose.

“Around the same time, Chelo Silva became known for her powerful voice and emotional songs.”

I CAN I can notice the vivid adjective 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 vivid adjective?

“Her songs were emotional, and many listeners connected with them.”

A. songs B. emotional C. listeners

I CAN I can choose the vivid adjective 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?

“Her songs were emotional, and many listeners connected with them.”

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 weak describing word with a vivid adjective.

Plain sentence: The music was a nice sound.

Replace the word nice 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 hopeful instead of good?

"Her voice could sound strong, sad, hopeful, or full of pain."

Why hopeful and not good?

I CAN I can explain why an author's word choice is better than a plain word.

Find a vivid adjective on your own.

Go back to the passage. Find one more vivid adjective. Copy the words and explain what they show.

Go back to the reading.

Find one more vivid adjective.

**Copy the exact words. Then explain what the word shows
and why the author chose it.**

I CAN I can find a vivid adjective and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

powerful. Powerful paints a picture of a voice so strong and commanding that people must pay attention.

CHOOSE

B. emotional. It describes a noun with exact detail the reader can picture.

SHOW

Emotional shows the songs stirred strong feelings in people who heard them.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The music was a stirring sound.

DEFEND

Hopeful paints a picture of a voice filled with belief and optimism. The plain word good would not show the specific feeling of hope in the music.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Mendoza’s music also helped keep traditions alive.” The word alive works well. Alive paints a vivid picture of traditions that are still breathing and active, not.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

They are hearing traditions that were kept alive through songs and performances. They are also hearing courage, because many artists had to work hard to be heard.

Why does the author most likely use the word 'courage' when describing the artists?

- A** The artists performed even when it was difficult and unfair.
- B** The artists were always confident and never felt afraid.
- C** The artists traveled long distances to find audiences.
- D** The artists copied songs from other musicians.

The answer is **A**.

The artists performed even when it was difficult and unfair.

A Correct. Courage means bravery in the face of difficulty, and the excerpt says many artists had to work hard to be heard.

The artists were always confident and never felt afraid.

B Courage does not mean never being afraid. It means performing despite difficulties.

The artists traveled long distances to find audiences.

C The excerpt does not say they traveled far. Courage refers to performing despite barriers.

The artists copied songs from other musicians.

D The excerpt says the artists shared their own stories and traditions.