

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 “A Day That Changed”

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.

“Jayden misjudged the weather and assumed the day would continue like this.”

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?

“She drew a chart on the board with two headings: Weather and Climate.”

A. drew B. chart C. board

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?

“She drew a chart on the board with two headings: Weather and Climate.”

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 boy looked at the sky.

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.”

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Defend the author's choice.

Why did the author choose peeked instead of came out?

“By lunch, the sun peeked through the clouds, and the playground felt warmer.”

Why peeked and not came out?

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

misjudged. Misjudged tells exactly what Jayden did: he made a wrong guess about the weather, not just thought about it.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Drew tells exactly what Ms. Rios did: sketching a chart by hand on the board to organize information.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The boy scanned the sky.

DEFEND

Peeked shows the sun appearing only partly through a gap in clouds. The plain phrase came out would not show that the sun appeared just a little bit.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Jayden realized that while the weather had changed throughout the day, the climate where he lived stayed consistent over time.” The word realized works well. Realized.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Jayden felt warm sunlight on his arms. He saw a few white clouds drifting across the sky.

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

A crashing

B disappearing

C floating

D forming

The answer is C.

- A crashing**
Crashing means slamming hard. Drifting means floating slowly and gently.
- B disappearing**
Disappearing means vanishing. Drifting means moving slowly, not going away.
- C floating**
Correct. Drifting means moving slowly and gently through the air, which is what floating means.
- D forming**
Forming means taking shape. Drifting means already formed clouds moving across the sky.