

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 “What Shapes a Society? Place, Resources, and Connection”

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.”

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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.

“European colonization led to conflict over land and resources.”

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?

“Mali’s location near important trade routes helped the kingdom become wealthy and powerful.”

A. location B. wealthy C. kingdom

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?

“Mali’s location near important trade routes helped the kingdom become wealthy and powerful.”

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 changes were bad for the community.

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 displacement instead of moving?

"Native peoples experienced disease, displacement, violence, and major changes to their communities."

Why displacement and not moving?

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

conflict. Conflict carries a serious negative feeling of fighting and struggle, showing the contact was not peaceful.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Wealthy carries a strong positive feeling of great riches and abundance.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The changes were devastating for the community.

DEFEND

Displacement carries a harsh feeling of being forced from home. The plain word moving would not show the cruelty and unfairness of being pushed out of one's own land.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “One group may see opportunity while another experiences loss.” The word loss works well. Loss carries a heavy negative feeling of something valuable being taken away and.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Places create possibilities. Resources create opportunities and limits. Connections create change. People decide what to do next.

The word 'limits' helps the reader understand that resources

- A** are always available in unlimited amounts
- B** can run out, which affects what people can do
- C** are only found in one region of Texas
- D** do not affect how people live or work

The answer is **B**.

- A** **are always available in unlimited amounts**
Limits means there are boundaries to what is available, the opposite of unlimited.
- B** **can run out, which affects what people can do**
Correct. Limits means resources have boundaries, so people cannot use as much as they want.
- C** **are only found in one region of Texas**
The passage describes resources in many regions, not just one.
- D** **do not affect how people live or work**
The passage explains that resources directly affect what people can do.