

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 “**The Great Chocolate Chip Cookie Mystery**”

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.

“Jordan pointed dramatically at an empty silver tray.”

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?

“At the table, theories multiplied.”

A. table B. multiplied C. theories

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?

“At the table, theories multiplied.”

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 student went to the front of the room.

Replace the word went 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 shrugged instead of moved?

"Eli shrugged."

Why shrugged and not moved?

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

pointed. Pointed shows Jordan using his finger to draw attention to the tray. It is more exact than a plain verb like showed.

CHOOSE

B. multiplied. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Multiplied means the ideas kept growing quickly, like numbers increasing. It shows the guesses spread fast.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The student marched to the front of the room.

DEFEND

Shrugged shows Eli lifting his shoulders to say he does not care or does not know. The plain word moved would not show that feeling at all.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Mrs. Delgado, their teacher, raised one eyebrow.” The word raised works well. Raised tells exactly how Mrs. Delgado moved her eyebrow to show she was curious or doubtful.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Maya heard a student at the next table announce that the cookies had probably been recalled because chocolate chips were dangerous.

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

A whisper

B remember

C declare

D request

The answer is C.

- A** **whisper**
Whisper means to speak very quietly. The student is speaking loudly enough for others to hear.
- B** **remember**
Remember means to think of something again. It does not mean to say something out loud.
- C** **declare**
Correct. The student is stating the claim boldly, which is what declare means.
- D** **request**
Request means to ask for something. The student is not asking; the student is making a claim.