

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

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.”

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 word with a strong feeling.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the word that carries a strong feeling.

“Jordan looked suspicious.”

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?

““That the most exciting version of a story isn’t always the most accurate one,” Maya said.”

A. most B. exciting C. version

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?

““That the most exciting version of a story isn’t always the most accurate one,” Maya said.”

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 group talked about the problem.

Replace the word talked 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 oversimplified instead of short?

““It might be an oversimplified version,” Maya said.”

Why oversimplified and not short?

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

suspicious. Suspicious carries a negative feeling of distrust, showing Jordan doubts what he hears.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Exciting carries a positive connotation of thrill and entertainment, suggesting the story sounds fun but may not be truthful.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The group argued about the problem.

DEFEND

Oversimplified shows the story was made too simple and left out important parts. The plain word short only tells length, not that facts were missing.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Eli looked disappointed.” The word disappointed works well. Disappointed carries a sad, let-down feeling, showing Eli is upset the fun story might not be true.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

A week earlier, she would have repeated the famous invention story without thinking twice.

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

A retold

B ignored

C created

D doubted

The answer is **A**.

A

retold

Correct. Retold means to tell again, which matches repeated.

B

ignored

Ignored means to pay no attention. Maya would have told the story, not ignored it.

C

created

Created means to make something new. Maya would have retold a story she heard.

D

doubted

Doubted means to question. Maya would not have questioned it before.