

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 Fifth-Grade Cookie Commission**”

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 shocked.”

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

Choose the strongest word.

Read the sentence. Which word carries the strongest feeling?

“Week four offered oatmeal cookies, which created an entirely new controversy.”

A. oatmeal B. controversy C. entirely

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.”

EXACT TEKS WORDING

“revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity”

Show what the word does.

What does the underlined word help the reader understand?

“Week four offered oatmeal cookies, which created an entirely new controversy.”

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."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

"revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity"

Own it. Revise a sentence.

Revise the plain sentence. Replace the neutral word with a word that carries a clear feeling.

Plain sentence: The students said their opinions.

Replace the word said 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."

EXACT TEKS WORDING

"revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity"

Defend the author's choice.

Why did the author choose crisis instead of problem?

““Before this becomes a dessert-based constitutional crisis, perhaps you should gather some evidence.””

Why crisis and not problem?

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

shocked. Shocked carries a connotation of sudden, extreme surprise that goes beyond simply being surprised.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Controversy carries a negative connotation of heated disagreement and conflict among the students.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The students debated their opinions.

DEFEND

Crisis carries a feeling of serious danger, which makes the joke funny because the problem is only about dessert. The plain word problem sounds calm and small.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Sofia disagreed.” The word disagreed works well. Disagreed carries a connotation of opposition, showing Sofia firmly objects to the idea.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Maya pointed out that two choices had created the original shortage because the cafeteria had guessed how many students would select each one.

The word 'guessed' helps the reader understand that

- A** the cafeteria used exact data from students
- B** the cafeteria estimated without enough data
- C** the students were unhappy about the survey results
- D** Maya wanted the cafeteria to stop serving cookies

The answer is **B**.

A

the cafeteria used exact data from students

Guessed means the cafeteria did not have exact data. They estimated.

B

the cafeteria estimated without enough data

Correct. Guessed shows the cafeteria made a prediction without enough information.

C

the students were unhappy about the survey results

The excerpt describes the cafeteria's prediction, not students' feelings.

D

Maya wanted the cafeteria to stop serving cookies

Maya is explaining why the shortage happened, not suggesting cookies should end.