

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 “Our Rights, Our Voices”

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

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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.

“They wrote down rights to make things fair,”

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?

“So people's freedoms would be there.”

A. people's B. freedoms C. would

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?

“So people's freedoms would be there.”

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 leaders made a paper about rules.

Replace the word rules 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 liberty instead of rights?

“To help protect each person's liberty.”

Why liberty and not rights?

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

fair. Fair carries a positive connotation of equal treatment and justice for all people.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Freedoms carries a strong positive connotation of independence and self-determination.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The leaders made a paper about freedoms.

DEFEND

Liberty carries a feeling of independence and power that the reader can sense. The plain word rights is correct but does not stir the same strong feeling.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Not too harsh or hard to bear,” The word harsh works well. Harsh carries a negative connotation of cruelty and extreme treatment.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

They help keep fairness shining bright.

The word 'shining' suggests that fairness is something that

- A** is hidden and difficult to find
- B** causes fear and confusion
- C** is old and no longer important
- D** is valuable and worth protecting

The answer is **D**.

- A** **is hidden and difficult to find**
Shining means giving off light, not being hidden.
- B** **causes fear and confusion**
Shining has a positive meaning, not a fearful one.
- C** **is old and no longer important**
Shining bright suggests something alive and active, not old.
- D** **is valuable and worth protecting**
Correct. Shining bright suggests fairness is precious and important, like a light to be kept burning.