

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 “A Voice of Their Own”

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.

“People walk along the street carrying baskets, barrels, and tools. A horse pulls a wagon past the shop.”

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?

"Long shadows stretch across the street."

A. stretch B. Long C. shadows

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?

“Long shadows stretch across the street.”

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 road looked nice in the evening.

Replace the word nice 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 discussed instead of mentioned?

"Families discussed the news around the dinner table."

Why discussed and not mentioned?

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

pulls. Pulls tells exactly how the horse drags the wagon forward with effort.

CHOOSE

A. stretch. It is the action word, and it tells exactly how the action happens.

SHOW

Stretch tells exactly how the shadows extend and reach across the road as the sun goes down.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The road looked peaceful in the evening.

DEFEND

Discussed shows families talking the news over and sharing ideas. The plain word mentioned means they only brought it up once, not that they talked it through.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Merchants spoke with customers.” The word spoke works well. Spoke tells exactly that merchants used words to share ideas in person.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

MR. HARRIS: Many people still respect the king. They want peace, and they want the colonies to succeed. But they also believe their opinions should matter.

The word 'respect' helps the reader understand that colonists

- A** were afraid of the king and wanted to hide
- B** wanted the king to visit the colonies
- C** still honored the king while wanting change
- D** had decided to break all ties with England

The answer is C.

- A** **were afraid of the king and wanted to hide**
Respect does not mean fear. It means having a high opinion of someone.
- B** **wanted the king to visit the colonies**
Nothing in the excerpt suggests colonists wanted a visit. Respect means admiration.
- C** **still honored the king while wanting change**
Correct. Respect means they honored the king but still wished for a stronger voice.
- D** **had decided to break all ties with England**
Respect shows they still valued the king, not that they wanted to separate.