

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 “Words That Changed a Nation”

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 had grown frustrated with British rule and believed it was time to form their own nation.”

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?

“Signing the document required tremendous courage.”

A. Signing B. document C. courage

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?

“Signing the document required tremendous courage.”

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 leaders felt something about the decision.

Replace the word something 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 unfair instead of wrong?

"Many colonists believed these taxes were unfair."

Why unfair and not wrong?

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

frustrated. Frustrated carries a strong negative connotation of deep annoyance and impatience after repeated disappointments.

CHOOSE

C. courage. It carries a clear positive or negative feeling, not just a plain meaning.

SHOW

Courage carries a heroic, positive connotation of bravery in the face of real danger.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The leaders felt dread about the decision.

DEFEND

Unfair reaches the reader's sense of injustice, making them feel the colonists' frustration. Wrong is more general and does not stir the same strong feeling.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: "They risked losing their property, their freedom, and even their lives." The word risked works well. Risked carries a connotation of danger and gambling, showing the.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

They risked losing their property, their freedom, and even their lives.

The word 'risked' helps the reader understand that the signers

- A** were certain they would lose everything
- B** did not care about the consequences
- C** had already lost their homes before signing
- D** knew they could lose everything but signed anyway

The answer is **D**.

- A** **were certain they would lose everything**
Risky means they faced possible loss, not that it was certain.
- B** **did not care about the consequences**
Risky shows they knew the danger but chose to act anyway, not that they were careless.
- C** **had already lost their homes before signing**
Risky means they faced future danger, not that the loss had already happened.
- D** **knew they could lose everything but signed anyway**
Correct. Risky means they understood the danger and still chose to act.