

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 Difficult Compromise”

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.

“Voices were raised, and some delegates worried the meeting might fall apart.”

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?

“Northern states pushed back.”

A. pushed back B. Northern C. states

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?

“Northern states pushed back.”

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 group talked about the problem for a long time.

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 escaped instead of left?

"Some escaped through networks that became known as the Underground Railroad."

Why escaped and not left?

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

raised. Raised tells exactly how the delegates lifted their voices louder during the heated argument.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Pushed back tells exactly how the northern states argued against the idea with strong resistance.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The group debated the problem for a long time.

DEFEND

Escaped shows people breaking free from danger by getting away in secret. The plain word left makes it sound easy and safe, not risky.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Finally, a compromise was suggested.” The word suggested works well. Suggested tells exactly how someone offered the idea carefully, not forcing it on others.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Some delegates agreed because they wanted the convention to succeed. Others were uncomfortable with the decision but felt there was no easy answer.

The word 'uncomfortable' helps the reader understand that some delegates

- A** were fully satisfied with the compromise
- B** felt uneasy about the agreement but accepted it
- C** wanted to leave the convention immediately
- D** were confused about what the compromise meant

The answer is **B**.

- A** **were fully satisfied with the compromise**
Uncomfortable means the opposite of satisfied. They were uneasy.
- B** **felt uneasy about the agreement but accepted it**
Correct. Uncomfortable shows the delegates did not fully support the decision but went along with it.
- C** **wanted to leave the convention immediately**
The excerpt says they agreed, not that they wanted to leave.
- D** **were confused about what the compromise meant**
Uncomfortable shows uneasiness, not confusion about the meaning.