

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 Gift that Welcomed Millions”

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.

“Rosa leaned against the cold metal rail and tried to take in every detail.”

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?

“Two boys waved their caps over their heads.”

A. waved B. Two C. boys

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?

“Two boys waved their caps over their heads.”

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 family went to the new country.

Replace the word went 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 pressed instead of held?

"An elderly man removed his hat and pressed it against his chest."

Why pressed and not held?

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

leaned. Leaned tells exactly how Rosa pressed her body against the railing to steady herself while looking.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Waved tells exactly the motion of swinging the caps through the air with excitement.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The family sailed to the new country.

DEFEND

Pressed shows the man pushing his hat tightly against his chest with deep feeling. The plain word held does not capture that emotional force.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “Her father explained that the torch stood for hope and freedom.” The word explained works well. Explained tells exactly how her father put the idea into words for Rosa to.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

The morning mist curled around its base, while sunlight touched the crown on its head.

The word 'curled' helps the reader

- A** hear the wind blowing near the harbor
- B** see the mist wrapping around the statue
- C** taste the salty air near the water
- D** feel the temperature of the morning air

The answer is **B**.

- A** **hear the wind blowing near the harbor**
Curled describes how the mist moved, not a sound.
- B** **see the mist wrapping around the statue**
Correct. Curled helps the reader picture the mist bending and wrapping softly around the base.
- C** **taste the salty air near the water**
Curled is about movement, not taste.
- D** **feel the temperature of the morning air**
Curled describes the shape of the mist, not the temperature.