

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

Vivid Adjectives

from “A Gift that Welcomed Millions”

A vivid adjective describes a noun with exact detail so the reader can picture it clearly.

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 vivid adjective.”

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Notice the vivid adjective.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the vivid describing word the author chose.

“Day after day, gray waves had rolled past the ship.”

I CAN I can notice the vivid adjective 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 vivid adjective?

“At night, her family slept in a crowded room below deck.”

A. night B. crowded C. family

I CAN I can choose the vivid adjective 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?

"At night, her family slept in a crowded room below deck."

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 weak describing word with a vivid adjective.

Plain sentence: The trip on the ship was hard.

Replace the word hard 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 hungry instead of upset?

“Rosa's feet ached, and Marco complained that he was hungry.”

Why hungry and not upset?

I CAN I can explain why an author's word choice is better than a plain word.

Find a vivid adjective on your own.

Go back to the passage. Find one more vivid adjective. Copy the words and explain what they show.

Go back to the reading.

Find one more vivid adjective.

**Copy the exact words. Then explain what the word shows
and why the author chose it.**

I CAN I can find a vivid adjective and explain the author's choice.

Answers, across the five thinking levels.

NOTICE

gray. Gray paints a picture of dull, cold ocean waves that look heavy and gloomy during the long voyage.

CHOOSE

B. crowded. It describes a noun with exact detail the reader can picture.

SHOW

Crowded paints a picture of too many people packed tightly together in a small space.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The trip on the ship was exhausting.

DEFEND

Hungry paints a clear physical picture of Marco's empty stomach and need for food. The plain word upset could mean sad, angry, or worried and does not name the specific problem.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: "Life was not easy. The family worked long hours, and money was often scarce." The word scarce works well. Scarce paints a picture of something rare and hard to find.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

She wanted to remember the way it looked in the morning light. The statue seemed to stand watch over the harbor, greeting every ship that passed.

The word 'greeting' suggests that the statue seemed

- A** angry at the arriving ships
- B** too small to notice from the ship
- C** welcoming and friendly to arrivals
- D** tired of watching the same harbor

The answer is C.

- A** **angry at the arriving ships**
Greeting is a friendly word. It does not suggest anger.
- B** **too small to notice from the ship**
The excerpt says Rosa could see the statue clearly. Greeting does not suggest smallness.
- C** **welcoming and friendly to arrivals**
Correct. Greeting makes the statue seem like a warm, welcoming figure to each new ship.
- D** **tired of watching the same harbor**
Greeting is an active, positive word. It does not suggest tiredness.