

## 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

**Specific Nouns**

from “**From Protest to Participation: How a Nation Changes**”

A specific noun names exactly which person, place, thing, or idea, instead of a general word like thing or place.

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 specific noun.”

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## Notice the specific noun.

Read this sentence from the passage. Find the specific noun the author chose.

“Their complaint became known as taxation without representation.”

**I CAN** I can notice the specific noun 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 most specific noun?

**“Citizens can preserve principles they believe remain valuable.”**

**A. Citizens   B. preserve   C. principles**

**I CAN** I can choose the specific noun 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?

“Citizens can preserve principles they believe remain valuable.”

**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."

## EXACT TEKS WORDING

*"revise drafts to improve sentence structure and word choice by adding, deleting, combining, and rearranging ideas for coherence and clarity"*

**Own it. Revise a sentence.**

Revise the plain sentence. Replace the general noun with a specific noun.

**Plain sentence: The people wanted to fix the problems.**

**Replace the word problems 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 Boston Tea Party instead of protest?

“The Tea Act led to the Boston Tea Party.”

Why Boston Tea Party and not protest?

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

### Find a specific noun on your own.

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

**Go back to the reading.**

**Find one more specific noun.**

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

**I CAN** I can find a specific noun and explain the author's choice.

## Answers, across the five thinking levels.

**NOTICE**

taxation. Taxation names the specific government action of collecting money, not just a general word like payment.

**CHOOSE**

C. principles. It names exactly who or what, instead of a general word like thing or place.

**SHOW**

Principles names specific foundational beliefs, not just a general word like ideas.

**OWN**

Answers vary. One strong revision: The people wanted to fix the injustice.

**DEFEND**

Boston Tea Party names the exact protest the colonists held. The plain word protest could mean any event, so the reader would not know which one.

**YOUR TURN**

Answers vary. One example: “The Declaration established ideals.” The word ideals works well. Ideals names the specific type of high principles, not just a general word like ideas or beliefs.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

**Respectful disagreement allows people to continue working together even when they prefer different solutions.**

**The word 'disagreement' helps the reader understand that people in a democracy**

- A** should never express different opinions
- B** will always reach the same conclusion
- C** can have different views and still cooperate
- D** must stop working when they cannot agree

## The answer is C.

- A should never express different opinions**  
The excerpt says disagreement is allowed, not that it should be avoided.
- B will always reach the same conclusion**  
Disagreement means people have different views, not that they always agree.
- C can have different views and still cooperate**  
Correct. The excerpt says respectful disagreement lets people work together despite differences.
- D must stop working when they cannot agree**  
The excerpt says disagreement allows people to continue working, not to stop.