

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.

“Women could not participate equally in political life.”

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?

“Its torch suggests light and liberty.”

A. torch B. suggests C. light

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?

“Its torch suggests light and liberty.”

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 general noun with a specific noun.

Plain sentence: The new families had many things to deal with.

Replace the word things 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 discrimination instead of problems?

“Newcomers often faced language barriers, difficult working conditions, crowded housing, discrimination, and uncertainty.”

Why discrimination and not problems?

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

political life. Political life names the specific area of public government activity, not just life or daily activities.

CHOOSE

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

SHOW

Torch names the exact object the Statue of Liberty holds, not a general word like item or part.

OWN

Answers vary. One strong revision: The new families had many hardships to deal with.

DEFEND

Discrimination names the exact type of unfairness people faced because of who they were. The plain word problems could refer to anything and does not show the specific injustice.

YOUR TURN

Answers vary. One example: “The Constitution created a government.” The word Constitution works well. Constitution names the exact founding document instead of a vague word like paper or plan.

READ THIS PASSAGE EXCERPT.

Does what we are doing match what we say we believe?

The word 'match' helps the reader understand that citizens should check whether their

- A** actions are consistent with their stated beliefs
- B** leaders are speaking more loudly than others
- C** laws are exactly the same as laws in other countries
- D** traditions should never change over time

The answer is **A**.

A

actions are consistent with their stated beliefs

Correct. Match means to compare actions to beliefs and see if they line up.

B

leaders are speaking more loudly than others

Match is about consistency between actions and beliefs, not about volume.

C

laws are exactly the same as laws in other countries

Match here compares a nation's actions to its own beliefs, not to other countries.

D

traditions should never change over time

Match asks whether actions fit beliefs. It does not say traditions cannot change.