

EXAM**AUTHOR'S STYLE** ➔ **WORD CHOICE**

An author's **word choice** refers to his or her selection of particular words to convey meaning and to express specific ideas and attitudes.

Like writers of fiction and poetry, nonfiction writers also use **vivid language**, or strong, precise words. Using **strong verbs** and **precise adjectives** helps readers picture descriptions and actions and makes the writing more interesting.

Example, the sentence

A ***big dog*** went by.

An ***enormous dog with curly black hair*** trotted down the gravel driveway.

A. DIRECTIONS: SELECT THE STRONG VERBS AND PRECISE ADJECTIVES.

1. *The game* was cancelled, so Jake was *sad*.

- A. The game was cancelled, so Jake was extremely sad.
- B. The championship was cancelled, causing Jake to feel immense hectic.
- C. The championship was canceled, causing Jake to feel immense disappointed.

2. While *walking* to school, I *saw a bear*.

- A. While walking to school, I noticed a big bear.
- B. While casually strolling to school, I noticed a large, black bear lumbering across the street toward me!
- C. While walking to school, I was a bear.

3. Jose was *happy to go on the trip*.

- A. Jose was brimming with excitement at the idea of traveling to the enormous city.
- B. Jose was happy to go on the trip.
- C. Jose was brimming at the idea of traveling.

4. Belinda *walked* on *the beach*.

- A. On a sunny day, Belinda walked on the beach.
- B. On a bright, sunny day, Belinda casually strolled barefoot on the warm sand of the beach, overlooking the calm waves of the ocean.
- C. On a bright, sunny day, Belinda walked on the beach.

5. Axel *wanted to go to the concert* because he *liked the band*.

- A. Axel wanted to go to the concert because he really liked the band.
- B. Axel wanted to go to the concert because he was obsessed with the band.
- C. Axel was elated to go venture off to the concert because he was obsessed with the band.

B. DIRECTIONS: WRITE THE STRONG VERBS OR DEFINE ADJECTIVES.

- 1. Sad _____
- 2. Walking to school _____
- 3. Saw _____
- 4. Happy to go _____
- 5. Walk on the beach _____
- 6. Excited _____
- 7. Like _____