

Use Precise Words

Precise words tell a writer's exact meaning. For example, the words *hut*, *shack*, *lodge*, *cabin*, and *mansion* give readers a better picture than *house*. Using precise words can also help you use fewer words.

Wordy The cow made a loud, angry sound.

Precise The cow bellowed.

Directions Write the sentences. Replace the underlined words with a precise word.

1. The girls laughed in a high, happy, breathless way. Possible answers:

The girls giggled.

2. Jane and Holly walked in a slow and relaxed way around the mall.

Jane and Holly strolled around the mall.

3. The pig made a sharp, shrill noise.

The pig squealed.

4. Across the street from the cabin was a body of water that was smaller and calmer than a lake.

Across the street from the cabin was a pond.

5. For the holiday, the family had a big meal with many different dishes.

For the holiday, the family had a feast.
