The Power of Words

In this lesson, you will learn to:

• Detect bias through analyzing word choice in written texts

• Choose words that advance your writing goals most effectively
The Power of Words

- You as a *reader*: how does word choice tell you what to think before you realize it?

- You as a *writer*: how can you use word choice to achieve your writing goals?
PETROGRAD, THE SCENE OF REVOLUTION, WHERE EXTREMISTS HAVE DEPOSED KERENSKY

The Legion of Death Which Defended Winter Palace Until Bombardment of Forts of SS. Peter and Paul and War Isured Them to Surrender.

General View of Center of Russian Capital: (1) Vasil Island; (2) The Admiralty Building; (3) The Neva River; (4) The Winter Palace; (5) Admiralty Gardens; (6) Cathedral and Fortress of SS. Peter and Paul.

The Deposed Premier Kerensky With a Group of Soldiers and Officers.

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History of Maximalist Rise
Led by Lenine, Pro-German

[By the Associated Press]

It has been indicated for some time past that an attempt was to be made by the Maximalists in Petrograd to seize control of the capital. Nov. 2 was the date originally set for an extremist demonstration which was expected by its promoters to result in the taking over of power by this element. A postponement to an unannounced date was afterward decided upon, however.

The Maximalist, or Bolshevik element, comprises the most extremist class of the Russian revolutionary Socialists. It first sprang into prominence in the early days of the revolution under the leadership of Nikolai Lenin, the radical agitator, who later was put under the ban of the provisional government because of his ultra-radical preachings and his suspected pro-German leanings. He is known to have been in Petrograd for some time past, however, but a government order for his arrest failed to result in his apprehension.

Once Lived in America.

Meanwhile the Maximalists were under the leadership of his chief lieutenant, Leon Trotsky, whose home was in the United States when the revolution broke out, but who sailed for Russia shortly afterward. He was one of the leaders in the 1905 revolution.

The strength of the Maximalists has lain in the support which they obtained from the military, chiefly in the Petrograd garrison, among which they have been able to work with little interference from their government. They had failed, however, to impress their policies upon Russia as a whole, as has been shown by the manner in which they were mitigated in the all-Russian congress and the minority part they played in the organization of the preliminary parliament, in which they refused to participate after they were shown to be outnumbered.

Nevertheless, their influence upon Russia's policy, both internal and external, has been marked because of their predominance in Petrograd, the seat of government. It was this sinister influence that in part prompted the recent proposal by the Kerensky government to remove the capital to Moscow where it was believed the government would be free to represent the will of the whole Russian people.

Work Through Councils.

The Bolsheviks have worked chiefly through the Petrograd council of workmen and soldiers' delegates, which was there absolutely, uncertain of their ground at first, they were months ago to assume responsibility, although claiming the power to dictate the government's policy. Later, however, they have shown increasing boldness.

The fear of a counter-revolutionary movement, which held them in check for a long time, has been virtually dissipated by the failure of the Korniloff revolt, and they apparently have been preparing for a considerable period for a radical move to assert their authority. This was evidenced recently when they appointed a military committee to take charge of the defense of Petrograd and ordered the garrison to accept only its orders and ignore the government's authority.

Kerensky Saw Peril.

Premier Kerensky seemingly recognized that the growing menace to his government was one he could not cope with by drastic measures, surrounded as he was by military power in the hands of his opponents. It was only within the last day or two that he refused to declare the Bolshevik virtual outlaw at the request of the Cossacks, although asserting the government was taking all measures to deal with the threatened uprising.

Kerensky's task at the head of the provisional government since his assumption of the premiership on July 25 last, has been a formidable one. Hailed as the savior of Russia in her hour of need, he betrayed with ability and patience to keep the diverse elements comprising the revolutionary democracy together. Assailed from one side by the clamors of the extremists for an early peace and the abolition of the most radical internal policies, he was impelled from the other to endeavor to maintain some form of cohesive government for the nation, save Russia from falling into the trap laid for her by the German propagandists in their peace clamoring and endeavor to keep Russia in her place in the war and faithful to her obligations to her allies.

He Russias Discouraged.

It appeared for a time after the failure of the Korniloff rebellion that he might succeed in tiding Russia over the dangerous hours upon which she had drifted as the result of divided councils and the seemingly irreconcilable diverse currents.

But he was becoming discouraged over the situation, however, was indicated by a recent interview with him in which, although he declared Russia was still emphatically in the war, he asserted she had been worn out by the struggle and felt she had a right to claim that her allies henceforth assume the heavier part of the burden.
The RED DAWN

By Harrison George
The Bolsheviki and the I.W.W.
Price Ten Cents
“Out of the bloody mist . . . there marches, upright and unafraid, rebellious Labor, and the hope of the ages, the Industrial State, approaches realization as at this hour the fighting proletariat of Russia, the herald of a new world, presses its victory to completion and binds and consolidates its 175,000,000 people into a cohesive unit of Industrial Democracy.

And if it can be, as it is possible, that, by outer intrigue and inner treachery, the brave workers of Russia now under the Bolsheviks, valiantly fighting these dark forces, are betrayed, beaten and go down heroically in seas of blood as did Ennus, Spartacus and the Communards, yet the world of Labor will have profited and - success or failure - their brave attempt, their magnificent spirit and bold deeds shall live forever and their story shall be told ‘in lands remote and accents yet unknown’.”

We all know that the authentic leaders of the revolution, Lenin, Trotsky, conceived of it not as an end in itself, but as a first step, the first stage, in the world revolution which alone could complete what had been started in the Soviet Union. The conditions objectively were already mature in 1917, ’18 and ’19, for such a world revolution, beginning in Europe. What was lacking was the leadership, the party, without which the workers cannot succeed. The leadership of the old party, the Social-Democrats, who had betrayed the workers under the test of war, supported the bourgeoisie in their counter-revolutionary fight against the workers in the period following the war. The young and hastily organized Communist parties, which had been formed in European countries in response to the example of the Russian revolution, were as yet too weak and too young, too inexperienced, for their historic task...

Here on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary, as we celebrate the living revolution, we can still express the confident hope that the funeral of the Russian revolution, which so many renegades and traitors are announcing, will not merely be postponed, but will never take place."

- James Cannon, “The Russian Revolution”
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• Choose an issue you care about
• Select vocabulary that supports both sides of the issue
• Write one “pro” headline, and one “anti” headline
• If time permits, write a paragraph expressing your perspective