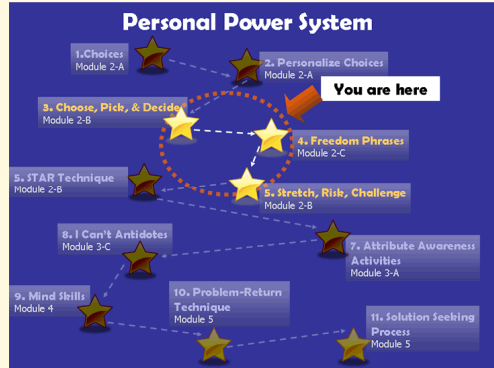


# Teacher Talk Applications



Click on the Strategy to Learn More

**PP 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide**

**PP 4: Freedom Phrases**

**PP 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge**

There are three Personal Power Teacher Talk Application strategies:

They include

PP 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

PP 4: Freedom Phrases

PP 5: Stretch, Risk Challenge

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

In many daily situations students do not see themselves as responsible. They blame the other person, saying things such as, "He made me do it." They disown their problems, saying, "It is not my fault." In many cases students are not aware at a conscious level that they are making a choice. By gently pointing out their choices, you can help bring them to a student's awareness.



# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

By using the Teacher Talk words “choose,” “pick,” or “decide,” you can help students:

- Change their minds about their responses and see the connections between their behavior and its consequences.
- Realize that they made a choice about leaving a class meeting and that they have communicated that choice to you through their behavior.
- Know that they can make other choices and return when they choose to live by the norm of no side-conversations.

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

Keep the following in mind when using “Choose, Pick, Decide”:

- It is important to **stay positive**.
- Intonation** definitely has an impact and is as important as the words.
- How** we say things matters.



# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

Click on the buttons to listen to or read the example/phrase

*Listen and Read*

"How did you..."



"I noticed that..."



"How many of..."



"If you decide..."



"Please pick..."



*Read more examples*



### Examples:

"I noticed that you chose to feel angry during gym today."

"How did you decide to respond when the assembly went overtime?"

"I'm being distracted by the noise behind the science table. Please pick a different behavior."

"How many of you chose to be prepared for the spelling test today?"

"If you decide to turn it in on Monday, you'll receive the grade you earned. If you decide to turn it in after Monday, you'll receive one grade lower than the grade you earned."

### More Examples (no audio):

"If you choose to do it on the wrong side again, you'll be deciding to do it over."

"You two girls have shown me by your behavior that you have chosen not to sit by each other for awhile."

"I am wondering what grade you will choose to earn this semester."

"Sarah, I noticed when Bonnie teased you that you chose to ignore her."

Note: When using "Choose, Pick, Decide," you are **not** offering a choice. You're commenting on a choice students made or could be making.

## Teacher Talk Applications

### Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

Select all the correct responses by clicking on them

- “I see you chose to staple rather than paste or glue.”
- “You can choose to do it on the red paper.”
- “I notice you picked California.”
- “You can choose to do it on blue or red paper.”
- “You may decide which state to feature in your report.”
- “I see you chose to do it on the red paper.”
- “You can pick the odd or even numbered problems.”
- “I’m wondering if you’ll pick the even-numbered problems again.”

## Teacher Talk Applications

### Personal Power Strategy 3: Choose, Pick, or Decide

Select all the correct responses by clicking on them

- "I see you chose to staple rather than paste or glue."
- "You can choose to do it on the red paper."
- "I notice you picked California."
- "You can choose to do it on blue or red paper."
- "You may decide which state to feature in your report."
- "I see you chose to do it on the red paper."
- "You can pick the odd or even numbered problems."
- "I'm wondering if you'll pick the even-numbered problems again."

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 4: Freedom Phrases

Many times throughout the day students ask questions that place the teacher in the role of decision maker. They ask things such as:

“May I sharpen my pencil now?”

“Will this book qualify for extra credit?”

“Is it okay if I ask Beth to help me?”





# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 4: Freedom Phrases

Use the Freedom Phrase “you decide” only when your answer to a student’s question would be “yes.”

Read  
specific  
examples



### Examples:

Q. “May I sharpen my pencils now?”

A. “If you can do it without disturbing the reading group. You decide.”

Q. “Will this book qualify for extra credit?”

A. “If it tells about someone you respect and admire. You decide.”

Q. “May I go to the library now?”

A. “My concern is that you be back here at 11:15. You choose.”

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 4: Freedom Phrases

Click on the Freedom Phrases that should go into the basket.

- "It is up to you."
- "You get to go to the student store."
- "You choose."
- "You get to decide"
- "You go there now."
- "It is your choice."
- "You can pick."
- "You make that decision."
- "I am comfortable with whatever you decide."



## Teacher Talk Applications

### Personal Power Strategy 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge

#### Thank You for Taking a Risk

Some students decide that it is easier to sit silently than to risk reading aloud. Others choose to stand with the bat on their shoulders rather than swing away. Some opt for the easy A in general science instead of accepting the challenge of signing up for a more difficult science course, such as zoology. In each case the issue is risk.

As a result, some students choose not to share answers of which they are unsure. Others balk at picking the difficult science project. Some will not stretch themselves by trying out for the school play. These students have concluded that the price they pay for taking risks and making mistakes is not worth the rewards should they happen to succeed.

**Real**

**Involvement**

**Stretches**

**Kids**



Some students decide that it is easier to sit silently than to risk reading aloud. Others choose to stand with the bat on their shoulders rather than swing away. Some opt for the easy A in general science instead of accepting the challenge of signing up for a more difficult science course, such as zoology. In each case the issue is risk.

Many students have decided that school is not a safe place in which to take the risk of self-challenge. Spelling bees, board work, and public achievement charts can lead to embarrassment, fear, and shame. Punishment, ridicule, and forced competition can also produce negative effects on our students.

As a result, some students choose not to share answers of which they are unsure. Others balk at picking the difficult science project. Some will not stretch themselves by trying out for the school play. These students have concluded that the price they pay for taking risks and making mistakes is not worth the rewards should they happen to succeed.

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge

To encourage your students to stretch and accept the risk of self-challenge, add the cue words risk, challenge, and stretch to your Teacher Talk.

“Thank you for taking a risk” is one statement you can use to encourage your students to stretch themselves. Use it during discussions when students volunteer answers, when they participate in new activities, or whenever they show a willingness to make an attempt. Here are some variations of “Thank you for taking a risk” that will help you to invite students to accept a challenge.



Listen to Examples  
of  
“Stretch, Risk,  
Challenge”

## Teacher Talk Applications

### Personal Power Strategy 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge

"Who would be willing to take a risk on this one?"

"I would like five people who would risk responding to this problem."

"That was a stretch you attempted. Thanks."

"Who feels like accepting a challenge today?"

"Let's all risk putting our ideas on paper."



Stop Audio

Examples of Stretch, Risk, Challenge statements:

- Who would be willing to take a risk on this one?
- I would like five people who would risk responding to the problem.
- That was a stretch you accepted, thanks!
- Who feels like accepting a challenge today?
- Let's all risk putting our ideas on paper.

# Teacher Talk Applications

## Personal Power Strategy 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge

Throughout their school years and their lives, people must be willing to step out of the safety and security of the familiar in order to make changes necessary for growth and learning. You can help students increase their willingness to take those steps by choosing language that encourages and validates their efforts and by modeling your own willingness to risk growth.



Even though the ideas in this course may be new for you, put them into practice anyway. **Take a risk.**

## Teacher Talk Applications

### Personal Power Strategy 5: Stretch, Risk, Challenge

Take some time to write down a risk you would like to take in your classroom.  
Do you want to try a new lesson or a radically different seating arrangement?  
Briefly describe the risk you want to take: