Words of Your Own

Read a model, then practice giving a fact a new voice.

2.LF.46.d "Define plagiarism and explain the importance of using their own words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the book's sentence and circle Maya's sentence. Notice how she tells the same fact in her own words.

Maya's Bee Poster

1. Maya is making a poster about honeybees. She reads a book that says, "Honeybees live in groups called colonies." Maya wants to share this fact. She does not want to copy the book's sentence as if she wrote it.

2. Maya writes, "A honeybee has lots of neighbors in its colony." She uses her own words to tell the same fact. She also writes the book's title on her poster so readers know where she learned it.

3. Copying someone else's words and acting like they are yours is called plagiarism. It is not fair to the person who wrote them. Using your own words shows what you understand. Naming your source helps give the writer credit.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. If Maya copied the book's sentence and said she wrote it, what would that be called? Why?

2. How does Maya tell the book's fact without copying its sentence?

3. Why does Maya use her own words and write the book's title on her poster?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Read this fact: “Penguins have feathers that help keep their bodies warm.” Write the fact in your own words. Then write one sentence explaining why you did not copy it.

ANSWER KEY

Words of Your Own

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.46.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the book's sentence and circle Maya's sentence. Notice how she tells the same fact in her own words. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	If Maya copied the book's sentence and said she wrote it, what would that be called? Why?	**It would be plagiarism because she would act as if someone else's words were hers.**
2	How does Maya tell the book's fact without copying its sentence?	**She writes, "A honeybee has lots of neighbors in its colony."**
3	Why does Maya use her own words and write the book's title on her poster?	**Her own words show what she understands. The book's title gives the writer credit.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A penguin's feather coat holds in heat. I used my own words to show what I understand instead of copying.

Accept accurate rewrites that do more than change one or two words. The explanation should connect using one's own words to showing understanding or avoiding plagiarism.