The Book Swap

Read a story and notice how word choice changes meaning.

4.LF.11 "Use commonly misused words correctly in writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each form of there, their, they're, your, you're, its, it's, two, and too in the passage. Underline a nearby word or phrase that helps you understand each circled word.

The Mystery Book

1. On Friday, our class set up a tiny book swap outside the library. Maya and Luis carried their favorite books in a blue wagon. There was a sign beside the door: "Take one, leave one." They're hoping every book will find a new reader. Your name goes on a paper slip inside any book you bring. If you're curious, you can read the first page before choosing.

2. A small mystery began when a green book appeared without a name slip. Its cover showed a fox holding a lantern. "It's a story about a lost map," said Maya after reading the first page. Two students examined the book, but both decided to choose another one. Luis made a second slip so the owner could add a name later. The fox on the cover seemed to watch them.

3. At lunch, a new student named Noor arrived with a book of bird facts. "Can I join, too?" Noor asked. "You're welcome here," Maya said. Noor placed the bird book on the wagon and picked the fox story. There was still one puzzle: whose book was it? Soon Luis spotted a tiny note tucked inside its back cover. The note read, "This book belongs to our classroom. Please share it."

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why is “their” correct in “their favorite books” instead of “there”?

2. Why does “you're curious” use “you're” instead of “your”?

3. Why does “Its cover” use “its,” while “It's a story” uses “it's”?

4. What does “Two” mean in paragraph 2? What does “too” mean in Noor's question?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences about a class art-supply swap. Use “there,” “their,” “they're,” and “you're” correctly at least once each.

ANSWER KEY

The Book Swap

GRADE 4 · 4.LF.11

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each form of there, their, they're, your, you're, its, it's, two, and too in the passage. Underline a nearby word or phrase that helps you understand each circled word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why is “their” correct in “their favorite books” instead of “there”?	**The books belong to Maya and Luis. “Their” shows who owns the books.**
2	Why does “you're curious” use “you're” instead of “your”?	**“You're” means “you are,” so the phrase means “you are curious.”**
3	Why does “Its cover” use “its,” while “It's a story” uses “it's”?	**“Its” shows that the cover belongs to the book. “It's” means “it is.”**
4	What does “Two” mean in paragraph 2? What does “too” mean in Noor's question?	**“Two” means the number 2. Noor uses “too” to mean “also.”**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

There is a box of crayons on the art table. Students place their extra supplies beside it. They're trading pencils for paintbrushes. You're welcome to choose a color.

Accept explanations that show the correct meaning of each word in context. For Part 3, check for four sentences about an art-supply swap and correct use of all four required words.