The Seed Swap

One event, several points of view

4.LF.18 "Identify the point of view in a narrative and describe how the narrative would be different if told from the perspective of a different character or narrator. a..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two details Nia saw or did, and circle two details the school news writer learned from Mrs. Chen. These marks will help you compare a firsthand account with a secondhand account.

A Gust at the Seed Swap

1. I'm Nia. At our school seed swap, I held a tray of sunflower seed packets near the door. A strong gust pushed the door open, and six packets slid onto the floor. I dropped to my knees, afraid the names on the packets would get mixed up. My friend Eli called for everyone to step back. I read each label as I gathered the packets.

2. Eli saw the same gust from the doorway. "I thought someone might slip on a packet," he told me later. While I checked the seed names, he held the door shut and asked the younger students to wait. Mrs. Chen, who ran the swap, brought an empty box. Eli put each packet inside after I read its label aloud.

3. The next day, the school news reported the event. Its writer had not been at the swap. After talking to Mrs. Chen, the writer said the door blew open, six packets fell, and the swap stopped for ten minutes. The report named no one who felt worried. It focused on how long the swap paused and how students helped it start again.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Who tells the story? Give one word from the passage that shows this person took part in the event.

2. How did Nia's and Eli's worries about the fallen packets differ?

3. How does the school news report focus on different information from Nia's account?

4. If Eli told the story instead of Nia, which action would he likely describe in more detail? Why?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four sentences about the gust from Mrs. Chen's point of view. Use "I," include two details from the passage, and add a thought she might have had as the person running the swap.

The Seed Swap

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two details Nia saw or did, and circle two details the school news writer learned from Mrs. Chen. These marks will help you compare a firsthand account with a secondhand account. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Who tells the story? Give one word from the passage that shows this person took part in the event.	**Nia tells the story. She uses "I" to describe what she did at the swap.**
2	How did Nia's and Eli's worries about the fallen packets differ?	**Nia worried that the seed names would get mixed up. Eli worried that someone might slip.**
3	How does the school news report focus on different information from Nia's account?	**Nia describes her worry about the labels and what she did. The report says the swap stopped for ten minutes but does not describe anyone's worries.**
4	If Eli told the story instead of Nia, which action would he likely describe in more detail? Why?	**He would likely describe holding the door shut or asking younger students to wait because those were his actions.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I brought an empty box when the seed packets fell. I wanted to keep the packets together so the swap could start again. I watched Nia read each label while Eli held the door shut. When the packets were safe, I was ready to welcome students back.

Accept supported answers that distinguish what Nia experienced from what the school news writer learned later. For Part 3, the added thought may be imagined, but it should fit Mrs. Chen's role and not conflict with the passage.