Garden Mark Hunt

Read a garden model and trace how punctuation helps ideas grow.

3.11.D.x "punctuation marks, including apostrophes in contractions and possessives and commas in compound sentences and items in a series; and"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each apostrophe and write CT for a contraction or P for a possessive. Circle every comma and write L by a list comma or C by a comma that joins two complete ideas, so you can see how punctuation helps readers.

A Class Garden

1. Maya's class visited the town garden on Saturday. Mr. Lee showed them carrots, beans, and bright red tomatoes. The students carried small baskets, but they didn't pick anything yet. First they listened to Mr. Lee's rules. He explained that a plant's roots need space, water, and care. Maya wrote the gardener's words in her notebook.

2. Mr. Lee gave each team a map, a trowel, and a packet of seeds. Maya's team chose a sunny bed near the fence. They dug careful holes, and they placed the seeds inside. Sam's glove got muddy, so he wiped it on the grass. Maya knew they would wash their tools later, but they had to finish planting first.

3. The class watered the bed and cleaned the path after planting. The garden's gate was closed, but a bee buzzed through a nearby opening. Maya couldn't stay long because her bus was coming. She checked her team's sign, its label, and its seed packet. Then she smiled at the neat row of tiny seeds in the soil.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the series that names the three supplies Mr. Lee gave each team. Include the commas.

2. Copy the sentence about digging that uses a comma to join two complete ideas.

3. Find the contraction that means "did not." Write the contraction and the two words it stands for.

4. Copy the possessive noun that tells which team Maya is in.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about a garden task. Use a comma in a series, a comma to join two complete ideas, one contraction, and one possessive noun. Then check your draft's commas and apostrophes. Keep or correct each mark and explain one decision.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · TEKS 3.11.D.x

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each apostrophe and write CT for a contraction or P for a possessive. Circle every comma and write L by a list comma or C by a comma that joins two complete ideas, so you can see how punctuation helps readers. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the series that names the three supplies Mr. Lee gave each team. Include the commas.	**a map, a trowel, and a packet of seeds**
2	Copy the sentence about digging that uses a comma to join two complete ideas.	**They dug careful holes, and they placed the seeds inside.**
3	Find the contraction that means “did not.” Write the contraction and the two words it stands for.	**didn't, did not**
4	Copy the possessive noun that tells which team Maya is in.	**Maya's team**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Lena packed gloves, a bucket, and a hose, but she didn't carry the gardener's shovel. She watered the dry plants.

Draft check: Keep list commas between gloves, a bucket, and a hose. Keep the comma before but joining complete ideas. Keep the apostrophe in didn’t for did not and in gardener’s to show ownership.

Accept exact passage wording for copied answers, including commas and apostrophes. For Part 3, accept any two original sentences that include all four required features and use each correctly. Require a learner draft check with a reasoned keep-or-correct decision about list/compound commas and contraction/possessive apostrophes. A correct draft may need no change.