Words at the Swap

Read a seed-swap story and notice words that sound alike.

3.L.1.j "Correctly use frequently confused words (e.g., your, you're)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each use of your or their. Circle each use of you're or they're to show which words can be replaced by "you are" or "they are."

The School Garden Seed Swap

1. On Saturday, the school garden held a seed swap. Maya set out paper cups, pencils, and packets of bean seeds. She wrote a sign for visitors: "Bring your extra seeds and take a new kind home." A little boy pointed to the sign. "You're asking us to trade, not buy?" he asked. Maya nodded and showed him the free seed table.

2. Two sisters brought sunflower seeds in a small jar. Their grandfather had saved the seeds from last summer's flowers. "They're ready to share," said one sister, holding up the jar. Maya gave them two paper cups for splitting the seeds and a packet of bean seeds to take home. She added labels so visitors could tell which cups held sunflower seeds.

3. Later, Maya noticed a child studying a cup of pea seeds. "You're welcome to take some," she said. "Put your choice in a packet and write its name on the front." The sisters picked up their empty jar and smiled. "They're going to plant the bean seeds by the fence," Maya told the child. Maya wondered which seeds would sprout first.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. In Maya's sign, why is your right in “your extra seeds” instead of you're?

2. In the boy's question, what two words can replace You're without changing its meaning?

3. In “Their grandfather had saved the seeds,” whose grandfather is he? Why does Their fit?

4. When Maya says, “They're going to plant the bean seeds,” who does They're mean? What two words can replace it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about a seed swap you imagine. Use your in one sentence and you're in the other so each word fits its meaning.

ANSWER KEY

Words at the Swap

GRADE 3 · 3.L.1.j

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each use of your or their. Circle each use of you're or they're to show which words can be replaced by "you are" or "they are." Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In Maya's sign, why is your right in "your extra seeds" instead of you're?	**The seeds belong to the visitors. "You are extra seeds" would not make sense.**
2	In the boy's question, what two words can replace You're without changing its meaning?	**You are.**
3	In "Their grandfather had saved the seeds," whose grandfather is he? Why does Their fit?	**He is the two sisters' grandfather. Their shows that he is their grandfather.**
4	When Maya says, "They're going to plant the bean seeds," who does They're mean? What two words can replace it?	**It means the two sisters. They are can replace They're.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Your packet holds pumpkin seeds for the swap. You're trading it for a packet of peas.

Students should underline two uses of your and two of their, and circle two uses of you're and two of they're. Accept Part 3 sentences that use your to show belonging and you're to mean "you are."