

Name ..... Class ..... Date .....

## 17.1–3 Using Troublesome Words

### Key Information

English contains a number of confusing expressions. By studying the most common ones, you can learn to use these troublesome words correctly. One common mistake occurs when you confuse two words that are spelled similarly.

*Quiet* means "calm" or "still."

*Quite* means "completely."

You may also confuse words that sound the same.

*Their* is the possessive form of *they*.

*They're* is the contraction of *they are*.

### ■ A. Choosing the Correct Word

Underline the correct word or words in parentheses.

1. (Bring, Take) me the picture you painted last week.
2. The judges might (choose, chose) it for the art contest.
3. (Lay, Lie) it on the table so that everyone can see it.
4. (Many, Much) of the contestants are submitting two works of art.
5. (Their, They're) all hoping to win a prize.
6. (Who's, Whose) painting will win first place?

### ■ B. Identifying Troublesome Words

Underline the correct word in parentheses.

1. Everyone (accept, except) Marla enjoyed the art show.
2. She was (all ready, already) to leave at seven o'clock.
3. (Its, It's) a shame she missed the mime troupe.
4. (Their, They're) performance preceded the awards ceremony.
5. Marla would not even wait for the curtain to (rise, raise).
6. (Theirs, There's) a lot to see if one is patient.
7. (Less, Fewer) students attended than I expected.
8. Marla thought the show was (to, too) boring.