







1 Gallon of  
Gasoline

1 Bag of  
Apples

Price<sub>gas</sub> = Price<sub>apples</sub> = \$2

**\$1**

$$P_{\text{gas}} = 3 \quad P_{\text{apples}} = 1$$

Prices Change

\$2



\$2

\$3



1 Gallon of  
Gasoline

1 Bag of  
Apples

# Cost of Basket

$$(1 \times \$2) + (1 \times \$2) = \$4$$

# Cost of Basket

$$(1 \times \$3) + (1 \times \$1) = \$4$$



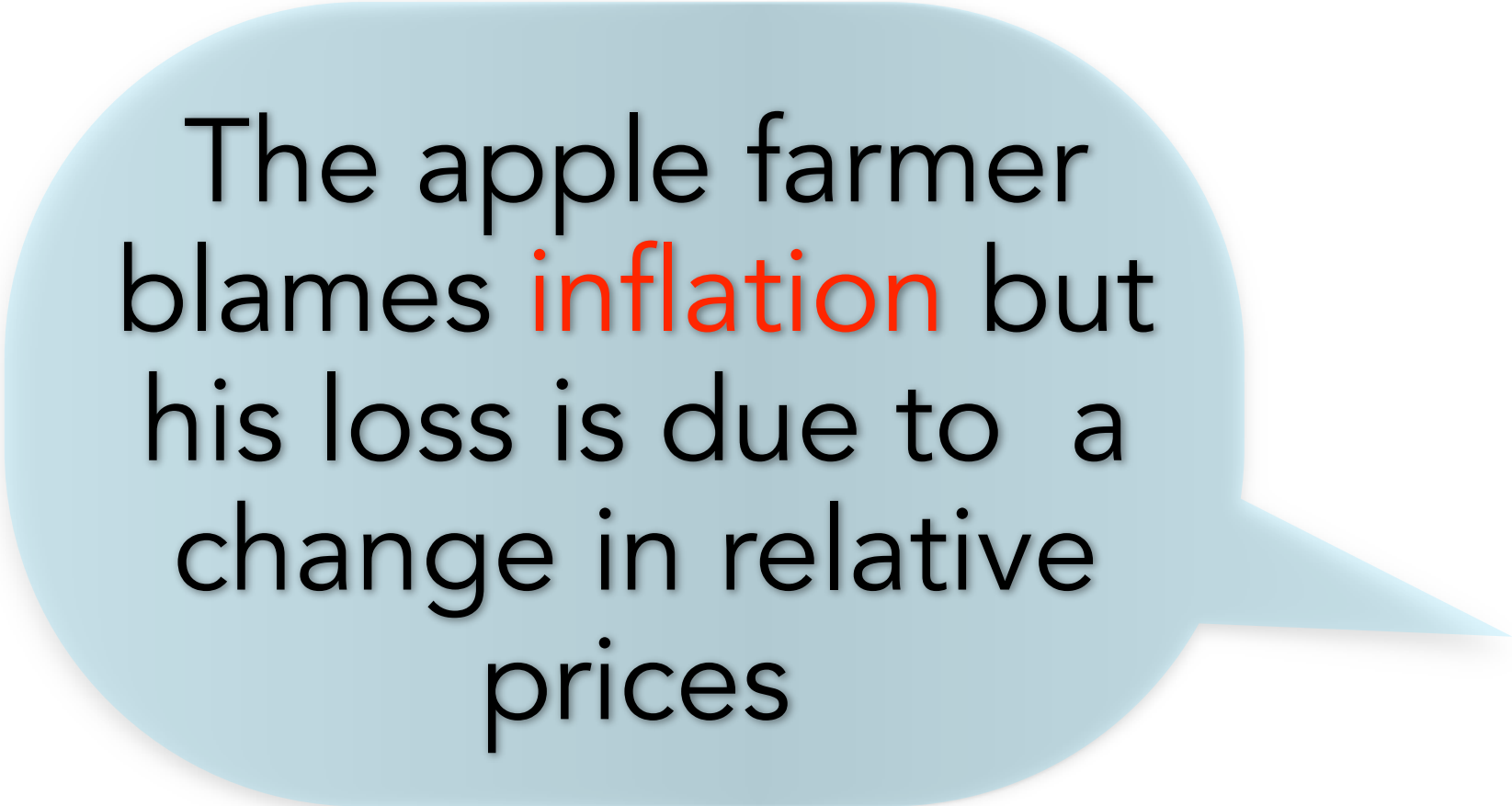
Zero Inflation

1 gallon of gas costs now 3 bags of apples



Relative Prices changed:

Mistake #2: Confusing Inflation with changes in Relative Prices



The apple farmer  
blames **inflation** but  
his loss is due to a  
change in relative  
prices

# Mistake # 2: Confusing Inflation with changes in Relative Prices

$$\text{Price}_{\text{gas}} = \text{Price}_{\text{apples}} = \$2$$

$$P_{\text{gas}} = 3 \quad P_{\text{apples}} = 1$$

The apple farmer blames **inflation** but his loss is due to a change in relative prices



**Zero** Inflation



Relative Prices **changed**:

1 gallon of gas costs now 3 bags of apples

