Word Change Detectives

Sort words that show more than one or an action already done.

2.LF.45.e "Form and use frequently-occurring irregular plural nouns and verbs."

NAME _____ DATE _____

MORE THAN ONE

Some nouns change in a special way to name more than one.

Geese honk loudly.

ALREADY HAPPENED

Some action words change in a special way to tell what already happened.

Grandma slept soundly.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle MANY or PAST for each bold word, then pick two items and explain how you knew.

1. My **teeth** look clean. MANY PAST
2. Three **mice** hide. MANY PAST
3. We **went** outside yesterday. MANY PAST
4. Our **feet** feel cold. MANY PAST
5. The **children** play. MANY PAST
6. She **ate** lunch. MANY PAST
7. He **ran** home. MANY PAST
8. Two **men** talk. MANY PAST

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence with a MANY word and one new sentence with a PAST word. Do not use words from the sort.

MANY _____

PAST _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with a new MANY word and a new PAST word. Underline both words.

ANSWER KEY # Word Change Detectives

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	My **teeth** look clean.	**MANY**	Teeth is the plural of tooth.
2	Three **mice** hide.	**MANY**	Mice is the plural of mouse.
3	We **went** outside yesterday.	**PAST**	Went is the past tense of go.
4	Our **feet** feel cold.	**MANY**	Feet is the plural of foot.
5	The **children** play.	**MANY**	Children is the plural of child.
6	She **ate** lunch.	**PAST**	Ate is the past tense of eat.
7	He **ran** home.	**PAST**	Ran is the past tense of run.
8	Two **men** talk.	**MANY**	Men is the plural of man.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **MANY**: Three people waited.
- **PAST**: I took my coat.

Challenge: The women drove to town.

For Part 2, students should explain both choices. For example, mice names more than one mouse, and ate tells what she did before now.