

Affix Meaning Match

Use word parts to find each word's meaning.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4b "Determine the meaning of the new word formed when a known affix is added to a known word (e.g., agreeable/disagreeable, comfortable/uncomfortable, care/careless, heat/preheat)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

MEANS NOT

The prefixes un- and dis- can mean not.
unfriendly means not friendly

MEANS WITHOUT

The suffix -less can mean without.
hopeless means without hope

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle NOT or WITHOUT for each word, then choose two words and explain which affix helped you know each meaning.

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. unsafe | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 2. fearless | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 3. unhappy | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 4. careless | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 5. harmless | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 6. dishonest | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 7. endless | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |
| 8. unfair | ☐ NOT | ☐ WITHOUT |
| <hr/> | | |

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 word that means NOT and one new word that means WITHOUT.

NOT _____

WITHOUT _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences, one using your NOT word and one using your WITHOUT word, that show what each word means.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	unsafe	NOT	The prefix un- means not, so unsafe means not safe.
2	fearless	WITHOUT	The suffix -less means without, so fearless means without fear.
3	unhappy	NOT	The prefix un- means not, so unhappy means not happy.
4	careless	WITHOUT	The suffix -less means without, so careless means without enough care.
5	harmless	WITHOUT	The suffix -less means without, so harmless means without harm.
6	dishonest	NOT	The prefix dis- means not, so dishonest means not honest.
7	endless	WITHOUT	The suffix -less means without, so endless means without an end.
8	unfair	NOT	The prefix un- means not, so unfair means not fair.

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)

- **NOT:** untrue
- **WITHOUT:** homeless

Challenge: The untrue story fooled no one. The shelter gave a homeless family a warm place to sleep.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name un- or dis- as meaning not and -less as meaning without. Part 3 answers may vary if the affix and meaning match the category.