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	MEANS WITHOUT
The prefixes un- and dis- can mean not.	The suffix -less can mean without.
unfriendly means not friendly	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
2.	fearless	NOT	WITHOUT
3.	unhappy	NOT	WITHOUT
4.	careless	NOT	WITHOUT
5.	harmless	NOT	WITHOUT
6.	dishonest	NOT	WITHOUT
7.	endless	NOT	WITHOUT
8.	unfair	NOT	WITHOUT

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.

ANSWER KEY

Affix Meaning Match

GRADE 3 · L.3.4b

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.

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