Thought Detective Sort

Find the groups of words that tell whole ideas.

2.L.GC.2 "Syntax: Recognize and compose coherent sentences that express complete thoughts."

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPLETE SENTENCE	NEEDS MORE WORDS
A complete sentence tells a whole idea. It tells who or what and what happens. Birds chirp.	This group of words does not tell a whole idea. Add words to make the idea complete. Beside tall mountains.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle COMPLETE or NOT YET for each group of words, then for Part 2, choose two numbers and tell how you knew each choice.

1.	The baby laughs.	COMPLETE NOT YET
2.	My friends build a fort.	COMPLETE NOT YET
3.	In the dark cave.	COMPLETE NOT YET
4.	Dad waters the plants.	COMPLETE NOT YET
5.	After school today.	COMPLETE NOT YET
6.	The shiny red kite.	COMPLETE NOT YET
7.	We share our crayons.	COMPLETE NOT YET
8.	A fox runs quickly.	COMPLETE NOT YET

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 COMPLETE sentence and one new NOT YET group of words.

COMPLETE _____

NOT YET _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one NOT YET item from Part 1. Add words to make it a COMPLETE sentence.

ANSWER KEY

Thought Detective Sort

GRADE 2 · 2.L.GC.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The baby laughs.	**COMPLETE**	It tells who, the baby, and what happens, laughs.
2	My friends build a fort.	**COMPLETE**	It tells a whole idea.
3	In the dark cave.	**NOT YET**	It tells where, but not who or what happens.
4	Dad waters the plants.	**COMPLETE**	It tells who and what happens.
5	After school today.	**NOT YET**	It tells when, but not a whole idea.
6	The shiny red kite.	**NOT YET**	It names something but does not tell what happens.
7	We share our crayons.	**COMPLETE**	It tells who and what happens.
8	A fox runs quickly.	**COMPLETE**	It tells a whole idea.

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)

- **COMPLETE**: The rabbit hops.
- **NOT YET**: Near the old barn.

Challenge: After school today, I will read a book.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name a whole idea or explain what is missing. Answers to Part 3 and the challenge will vary, as long as each COMPLETE response expresses a whole thought.