

# Affix Clue Sort

Find clues at the beginning or end of each word.

**4.L.V.2.a** “Deconstruct words using knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, root words, and affixes to determine meaning. (I)”

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## PREFIX CLUE

A prefix is a word part at the beginning of a root word.  
It can change what the word means.

replay = play again

## SUFFIX CLUE

A suffix is a word part at the end of a root word. It can  
change what the word means or how it works in a  
sentence.

fearless = without fear

## 1 SORT \_\_\_\_\_ 8 items

Circle PREFIX or SUFFIX for each word, then for Part 2 choose two words and explain which word part showed you the answer.

- |             |                              |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. rewrite  | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 2. dislike  | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 3. cheerful | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 4. darkness | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 5. prepay   | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 6. untie    | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 7. misplace | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |
| 8. singer   | <input type="radio"/> PREFIX | <input type="radio"/> SUFFIX |

## 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 with a PREFIX and one new word with a SUFFIX.

**PREFIX** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SUFFIX** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### CHALLENGE

Write a word with both a prefix and a suffix. Then name its root and tell what the whole word means.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PART 1 • SORT

| # | ITEM     | CATEGORY      | WHY                                                         |
|---|----------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | rewrite  | <b>PREFIX</b> | re- comes before write and means again.                     |
| 2 | dislike  | <b>PREFIX</b> | dis- comes before like and means not or opposite.           |
| 3 | cheerful | <b>SUFFIX</b> | -ful comes after cheer and means full of.                   |
| 4 | darkness | <b>SUFFIX</b> | -ness comes after dark and names a state or quality.        |
| 5 | prepay   | <b>PREFIX</b> | pre- comes before pay and means before.                     |
| 6 | untie    | <b>PREFIX</b> | un- comes before tie and means undo or reverse.             |
| 7 | misplace | <b>PREFIX</b> | mis- comes before place and means wrongly.                  |
| 8 | singer   | <b>SUFFIX</b> | -er comes after sing and means a person who does something. |

## 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)

- **PREFIX:** overcook
- **SUFFIX:** joyful

**Challenge:** Unhelpful has the prefix un-, the root help, and the suffix -ful. It means not helpful.

For Part 2, students should name the affix and tell that it is at the beginning or end of the root word for both choices. Accept Part 3 words when the affix is correctly placed and the word is a real word.