Root Detective Sort

Sort each word, then prove two choices using the roots.

5.L.V.2.a "Deconstruct words using knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, root words, and affixes to determine meaning. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

GREEK ROOT

A Greek root gives the word's main idea. Greek roots are often used in science and school words.

thermometer has the Greek root therm, meaning heat.

LATIN ROOT

A Latin root gives the word's main idea. Latin roots are often used in action and everyday words.

aquatic has the Latin root aqua, meaning water.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each word and circle GREEK or LATIN based on the root that gives the word its main meaning.

1.	biology	GREEK LATIN
2.	autograph	GREEK LATIN
3.	inspect	GREEK LATIN
4.	microscope	GREEK LATIN
5.	transport	GREEK LATIN
6.	audible	GREEK LATIN
7.	construct	GREEK LATIN
8.	telescope	GREEK LATIN

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 Greek root and one new word with a Latin root. For each word, name the root and tell what it means.

GREEK _____

LATIN _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses one word with a Greek root and one word with a Latin root. Then name each root and tell what it means.

ANSWER KEY

Root Detective Sort

GRADE 5 · 5.L.V.2.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	biology	**GREEK**	bio is a Greek root meaning life, and logy relates to study.
2	autograph	**GREEK**	auto is a Greek root meaning self, and graph means write.
3	inspect	**LATIN**	spect is a Latin root meaning look.
4	microscope	**GREEK**	micro is a Greek root meaning small, and scope means look.
5	transport	**LATIN**	port is a Latin root meaning carry.
6	audible	**LATIN**	aud is a Latin root meaning hear.
7	construct	**LATIN**	struct is a Latin root meaning build.
8	telescope	**GREEK**	tele is a Greek root meaning far, and scope means look.

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)

- **GREEK**: geography, geo means earth.
- **LATIN**: retract, tract means pull.

Challenge: Sentence: The geologist used a portable tool. Roots: geo means earth, and port means carry.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept any two correctly sorted words when the student identifies a correct root and its meaning. Accept reasonable student-created words if the root origin and meaning are correct.