Roots That Fit

Use word parts and context to test a word choice.

9.L.V.2.c "Construct words based on Greek and Latin roots, root words, and/or affixes and use those words appropriately in context. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

FITS THE CONTEXT

The word's Greek or Latin parts match its meaning, and the word makes sense in the sentence.

A biodegradable cup can break down naturally over time.

DOES NOT FIT

The word may have familiar parts, but its meaning does not make sense in the sentence.

The fragile vase was indestructible, so it shattered when it fell.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle FITS or MISFITS for the quoted word in each sentence, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain which word parts and context clues guided you.

1. The "microscope" helped the students see tiny cells. FITS MISFITS
2. The artist's "monochromatic" painting used only shades of blue. FITS MISFITS
3. The modern historian wrote an "autobiography" of the Roman emperor. FITS MISFITS
4. The "archaeologist" studied artifacts from an ancient civilization. FITS MISFITS
5. The navigator used a "thermometer" to point north. FITS MISFITS
6. The aquarium displayed several "mammals," including colorful trout. FITS MISFITS
7. The "bilingual" guide spoke both Spanish and English. FITS MISFITS
8. The "geologist" identified minerals in the rock sample. FITS MISFITS

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 sentence containing a root-based word that FITS its context and one sentence containing a root-based word that is a MISFIT.

FITS _____

MISFITS _____

CHALLENGE

Combine bio- (life) and -logy (study of) to construct a word, then write a sentence using the word correctly.

ANSWER KEY

Roots That Fit

GRADE 9 · 9.L.V.2.c

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The "microscope" helped the students see tiny cells.	**FITS**	Micro means small, and scope means look or view. A microscope helps users view tiny objects.
2	The artist's "monochromatic" painting used only shades of blue.	**FITS**	Mono means one, and chromatic relates to color. The painting uses one color.
3	The modern historian wrote an "autobiography" of the Roman emperor.	**MISFITS**	Auto means self, so an autobiography is written by the person whose life it describes, not by a historian.
4	The "archaeologist" studied artifacts from an ancient civilization.	**FITS**	Archaeology is the study of past human life through artifacts and sites.
5	The navigator used a "thermometer" to point north.	**MISFITS**	Thermo relates to heat, and a thermometer measures temperature. A compass points north.
6	The aquarium displayed several "mammals," including colorful trout.	**MISFITS**	Trout are fish, not mammals.
7	The "bilingual" guide spoke both Spanish and English.	**FITS**	Bi means two, and lingual relates to language. A bilingual person uses two languages.
8	The "geologist" identified minerals in the rock sample.	**FITS**	Geo means earth, and a geologist studies Earth materials such as rocks and minerals.

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)

- **FITS**: The astronomer observed distant planets through a telescope.
- **MISFITS**: The librarian used a geography to erase pencil marks from a book.

Challenge: Biology is the study of living things.

For Part 2, students should name a meaningful word part and explain how the sentence context supports or contradicts the word. Accept different Part 3 examples when the word construction and context classification are accurate.