Word Part Detectives

Find the added part to read the whole word.

4.RF.2 "Use knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to accurately read unfamiliar, multisyllabic words in context."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PREFIX

A prefix is added to the beginning of a base word. Read both parts, then blend them into one word.

dis + agree = disagree

SUFFIX

A suffix is added to the end of a base word. Read both parts, then blend them into one word.

ship + ment = shipment

1 SORT

8 items

For each bold word, circle PREFIX or SUFFIX; in Part 2, choose two words and explain which part is added and how you read each word.

1. I will **rebuild** the tower. PREFIX SUFFIX
2. We can **preview** the film. PREFIX SUFFIX
3. The puppy was **fearless**. PREFIX SUFFIX
4. Do not **misread** the sign. PREFIX SUFFIX
5. The answer was **incorrect**. PREFIX SUFFIX
6. Her **kindness** mattered. PREFIX SUFFIX
7. Please **unwrap** the gift. PREFIX SUFFIX
8. That kitten is **playful**. PREFIX 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 multisyllabic word with a prefix and one with a suffix. Show the added part and base word with a plus sign.

PREFIX _____

SUFFIX _____

CHALLENGE

Choose a word from Part 1. Write one new sentence that shows its meaning, then show its added part and base word with a plus sign.

ANSWER KEY

Word Part Detectives

GRADE 4 · 4.RF.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	I will **rebuild** the tower.	**PREFIX**	re is added before build.
2	We can **preview** the film.	**PREFIX**	pre is added before view.
3	The puppy was **fearless**.	**SUFFIX**	less is added after fear.
4	Do not **misread** the sign.	**PREFIX**	mis is added before read.
5	The answer was **incorrect**.	**PREFIX**	in is added before correct.
6	Her **kindness** mattered.	**SUFFIX**	ness is added after kind.
7	Please **unwrap** the gift.	**PREFIX**	un is added before wrap.
8	That kitten is **playful**.	**SUFFIX**	ful is added after play.

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**: over + cook = overcook
- **SUFFIX**: enjoy + ment = enjoyment

Challenge: We had to unwrap the box to find the map. un + wrap = unwrap

For Part 2, a clear explanation names the added part and base word, then shows how they combine, such as re + build = rebuild. Accept other correctly formed multisyllabic words for Part 3.