Root Clue Detective

Test what a root tells you about a word.

L.6.4.b "Use Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word."

NAME _____ DATE _____

THE CLAIM FITS

A Greek or Latin root gives a clue to the word's meaning. The claim matches what the whole word means.

Pedal: ped = foot. Claim: A pedal is often pushed with a foot.

THE CLAIM MISLEADS

The root meaning is correct, but the claim about the whole word is not. A root does not tell you every detail.

Thermometer: therm = heat. Claim: A thermometer measures distance.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle FITS or MISLEADS for each claim; for Part 2, choose two items and explain how the root helped you decide.

1.	1. Biography: bio = life. Claim: It tells the story of a person's life.	FITS MISLEADS
2.	2. Telescope: tele = far. Claim: It helps you see distant objects.	FITS MISLEADS
3.	3. Aquarium: aqua = water. Claim: It is a device that cleans drinking water.	FITS MISLEADS
4.	4. Audience: aud = hear. Claim: It is a device that makes voices louder.	FITS MISLEADS
5.	5. Construct: struct = build. Claim: It means to build something.	FITS MISLEADS
6.	6. Transport: port = carry. Claim: It means to carry something only on foot.	FITS MISLEADS
7.	7. Photograph: photo = light. Claim: It is an image made using light.	FITS MISLEADS
8.	8. Autograph: auto = self. Claim: It is a person's own signature.	FITS MISLEADS

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 FITS example and one new MISLEADS example; for each, give a word, a Greek or Latin root and its meaning, and a claim about the word.

FITS _____

MISLEADS _____

CHALLENGE

Choose another word with a Greek or Latin root, write a misleading claim about it, then correct the claim and explain what the root did not tell you.

ANSWER KEY # Root Clue Detective

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. Biography: bio = life. Claim: It tells the story of a person's life.	**FITS**	Bio means life, and a biography tells about a person's life.
2	2. Telescope: tele = far. Claim: It helps you see distant objects.	**FITS**	Tele means far, and a telescope helps people see distant objects.
3	3. Aquarium: aqua = water. Claim: It is a device that cleans drinking water.	**MISLEADS**	Aqua means water, but an aquarium is a tank for aquatic life, not a water-cleaning device.
4	4. Audience: aud = hear. Claim: It is a device that makes voices louder.	**MISLEADS**	Aud relates to hearing, but an audience is a group of people who watch or listen.
5	5. Construct: struct = build. Claim: It means to build something.	**FITS**	Struct means build, and construct means to build.
6	6. Transport: port = carry. Claim: It means to carry something only on foot.	**MISLEADS**	Port means carry, but transport does not require traveling on foot.
7	7. Photograph: photo = light. Claim: It is an image made using light.	**FITS**	Photo means light, and light is used to make a photograph.
8	8. Autograph: auto = self. Claim: It is a person's own signature.	**FITS**	Auto means self, and an autograph is a person's own signature.

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**: Submarine: sub = under. Claim: It can travel under water.
- **MISLEADS**: Triangle: tri = three. Claim: It has three curved sides.

Challenge: Bicycle: bi = two. Misleading claim: It has two seats. Correction: It has two wheels. The root gives the number but does not tell you what is being counted.

For Part 2, accept explanations that connect the stated root meaning to the whole word and explain why the claim fits or misleads. For Part 3, check that each root meaning is accurate and each claim belongs in its labeled category.