Root Clue Check

Does the meaning match the word part?

L.8.4.b "Use Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word."

NAME _____ DATE _____

MEANING FITS

The stated meaning agrees with the clue from a Greek or Latin root or affix.

Greek *therm* means heat. **Thermal** means related to heat.

MEANING CLASHES

The stated meaning conflicts with the clue from a Greek or Latin root or affix.

Latin *aqu* means water. **Aquatic** means related to dry deserts.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FITS or CLASHES for each statement, then choose two items and explain how the word-part clues prove your choices.

1. Latin *port* = carry; **portable** means easy to carry. FITS CLASHES
2. Greek *bio* = life; **biography** means a story about a person's life. FITS CLASHES
3. Greek *geo* = Earth; **geology** means the study of stars. FITS CLASHES
4. Latin *aud* = hear; **audible** means able to be heard. FITS CLASHES
5. Latin *vis* = see; *in-* = not; **invisible** means easy to see. FITS CLASHES
6. Greek *phon* = sound; **phonograph** means a machine that plays recorded silent pictures. FITS CLASHES
7. Greek *micro* = small; **microscopic** means extremely small. FITS CLASHES
8. Latin *manu* = hand; **manual** means done only by machines. FITS CLASHES

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-and-meaning statement that FITS and one that CLASHES; include a Greek or Latin root or affix and its meaning in each.

FITS _____

CLASHES _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one CLASHES item from Part 1, correct its meaning, and explain how its root or affix supports your correction in two sentences.

ANSWER KEY

Root Clue Check

GRADE 8 · L.8.4.b

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Latin *port* = carry; **portable** means easy to carry.	**FITS**	Port means carry, which supports the stated meaning.
2	Greek *bio* = life; **biography** means a story about a person's life.	**FITS**	Bio means life, which supports the stated meaning.
3	Greek *geo* = Earth; **geology** means the study of stars.	**CLASHES**	Geo points to Earth, not stars. Geology is the study of Earth.
4	Latin *aud* = hear; **audible** means able to be heard.	**FITS**	Aud means hear, which supports the stated meaning.
5	Latin *vis* = see; *in-* = not; **invisible** means easy to see.	**CLASHES**	Vis means see and in- means not, so invisible means unable to be seen.
6	Greek *phon* = sound; **phonograph** means a machine that plays recorded silent pictures.	**CLASHES**	Phon points to sound. A phonograph plays recorded sounds, not silent pictures.
7	Greek *micro* = small; **microscopic** means extremely small.	**FITS**	Micro means small, which supports the stated meaning.
8	Latin *manu* = hand; **manual** means done only by machines.	**CLASHES**	Manu means hand. Manual work is done by hand, not only by machines.

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**: Latin *spect* = look; **spectator** means a person who watches an event.
- **CLASHES**: Greek *hydro* = water; **hydration** means having no water in your body.

Challenge: Item 3: **geology** is the study of Earth. The Greek root *geo* means Earth, not stars.

For Part 2, look for an explanation that connects the given word part to the stated meaning. For example, item 1 fits because port means carry, while item 5 clashes because in- means not and vis means see.