Word Part Detectives

Pick two sorted words and explain how you knew where each belongs.

RF.2.3.d "Read (decode) and write (encode) words with common prefixes and derivational suffixes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PREFIX WORD

A prefix goes at the beginning of a base word and changes its meaning. In **unlock**, **un** comes before lock.

unlock

SUFFIX WORD

A suffix goes at the end of a base word and changes its meaning. In **playful**, **ful** comes after play.

playful

1 SORT

8 items

Read each word and circle PREFIX or SUFFIX to show where the word part was added.

1.	unpack	PREFIX SUFFIX
2.	thankful	PREFIX SUFFIX
3.	helpless	PREFIX SUFFIX
4.	reread	PREFIX SUFFIX
5.	unsafe	PREFIX SUFFIX
6.	sadness	PREFIX SUFFIX
7.	rewind	PREFIX SUFFIX
8.	rebuild	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 PREFIX word and one new SUFFIX word. Do not use words from the sort.

PREFIX _____

SUFFIX _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence using a new PREFIX word and a new SUFFIX word. Underline both words.

ANSWER KEY

Word Part Detectives

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	unpack	**PREFIX**	Un is added before pack.
2	thankful	**SUFFIX**	Ful is added after thank.
3	helpless	**SUFFIX**	Less is added after help.
4	reread	**PREFIX**	Re is added before read.
5	unsafe	**PREFIX**	Un is added before safe.
6	sadness	**SUFFIX**	Ness is added after sad.
7	rewind	**PREFIX**	Re is added before wind.
8	rebuild	**PREFIX**	Re is added before build.

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**: untie
- **SUFFIX**: careless

Challenge: I will repaint the colorful box.

For Part 2, students should name the added word part and where it goes. For example, reread has re at the beginning, and sadness has ness at the end.