

Root Source Sort

Use word parts as clues to sort each word.

4L4.b "Use common, grade-appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., telegraph, photograph, autograph)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

GREEK ROOTS

Greek roots can give clues to a word's meaning. In **biology**, bio means life, so the word is about the study of life.

biology: bio means life.

LATIN ROOTS

Latin roots can also give clues to a word's meaning. In **audience**, audi means hear, so the word connects to listening.

audience: audi means hear.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Part 1: Circle GREEK or LATIN for each word, then Part 2: pick two words and explain which bold root clue helped you sort each one.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. photograph | GREEK | LATIN |
| 2. predict | GREEK | LATIN |
| 3. transport | GREEK | LATIN |
| 4. microscope | GREEK | LATIN |
| 5. autograph | GREEK | LATIN |
| 6. invisible | GREEK | LATIN |
| 7. geography | GREEK | LATIN |
| 8. thermometer | GREEK | LATIN |

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 with a Greek root and one new word with a Latin root. Underline the root in each word and tell what it means.

GREEK _____

LATIN _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses a word with a Greek root and a word with a Latin root. Underline both roots, then explain what each root means.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	photo graph	GREEK	photo is a Greek root meaning light.
2	pre dict	LATIN	pre is a Latin prefix meaning before.
3	trans port	LATIN	trans is a Latin prefix meaning across.
4	micro scope	GREEK	micro is a Greek root meaning small.
5	auto graph	GREEK	auto is a Greek root meaning self.
6	in visible	LATIN	in is a Latin prefix meaning not.
7	geo graphy	GREEK	geo is a Greek root meaning earth.
8	thermo meter	GREEK	thermo is a Greek root meaning heat.

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)

- **GREEK:** Greek Root: **telephone**, because tele means far.
- **LATIN:** Latin Root: **portable**, because port means carry.

Challenge: The telephone rang during the subway ride. Tele is Greek for far, and sub is Latin for under.

For Part 2, students should name the bold root, identify it as Greek or Latin, and state its meaning as evidence. Accept other accurate Greek-root and Latin-root examples in Part 3.