

Word Form Detectives

Use word endings and sentence jobs to sort noun and adjective forms.

9-10L4b "Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

NOUN FORMS

A noun names a person, place, thing, action, or idea. Endings such as -tion, -sis, and -acy often signal a noun.

We reached a **decision** after the debate.

ADJECTIVE FORMS

An adjective describes a noun. Endings such as -al, -ive, and -ant often signal an adjective.

The **careful** driver checked the mirror.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For each item, circle NOUNS or ADJECTIVES, then, for Part 2, choose two items and explain which ending or sentence job helped you sort each word.

1. Her **analysis** used strong evidence.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

2. The group organized an **advocacy** campaign.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

3. The **analytical** reader noticed the contradiction.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

4. The scientist recorded an **observation**.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

5. Her **persuasive** speech changed several minds.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

6. The **observant** student noticed a pattern.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

7. The workers showed **resistance** to the new policy.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

8. The **explanation** clarified the process.

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

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

For Part 3, write one new sentence with a noun form and one new sentence with an adjective form. Bold or underline the word form in each sentence.

NOUNS _____

ADJECTIVES _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses a noun form and an adjective form from the same word family. Underline the noun once and the adjective twice.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Her analysis used strong evidence.	NOUNS	Analysis names an idea or process, so it is a noun.
2	The group organized an advocacy campaign.	NOUNS	Advocacy names an action or cause, so it is a noun.
3	The analytical reader noticed the contradiction.	ADJECTIVES	Analytical describes the reader, so it is an adjective.
4	The scientist recorded an observation .	NOUNS	Observation names something the scientist recorded, so it is a noun.
5	Her persuasive speech changed several minds.	ADJECTIVES	Persuasive describes the speech, so it is an adjective.
6	The observant student noticed a pattern.	ADJECTIVES	Observant describes the student, so it is an adjective.
7	The workers showed resistance to the new policy.	NOUNS	Resistance names an idea or response, so it is a noun.
8	The explanation clarified the process.	NOUNS	Explanation names a thing that clarified the process, so it is a noun.

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)

- **NOUNS:** The **invention** solved a problem.
- **ADJECTIVES:** The **curious** child asked questions.

Challenge: The invention was an inventive solution.

Part 2 explanations should identify both the word's ending, when useful, and its job in the sentence.

Accept accurate student-created examples that clearly use a noun in one sentence and an adjective in the other.