Word Part Detectives

Sort words by what their beginnings mean.

2.4.R.3 "Students will use word parts (e.g., affixes, Anglo-Saxon roots, stems) to define and determine the meaning of new words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

MEANS AGAIN

The word part re- at the start means again. It can tell you that someone does something again.

refill means fill again

MEANS NOT

The word part un- at the start means not. It can tell you that something is not a certain way.

unclear means not clear

1 SORT

8 items

Circle AGAIN or NOT for each word, then pick two words and tell how the beginning of each word helps you know its meaning.

1. reread — AGAIN NOT
2. repaint — AGAIN NOT
3. unsafe — AGAIN NOT
4. retell — AGAIN NOT
5. unhappy — AGAIN NOT
6. unfair — AGAIN NOT
7. rewrite — AGAIN NOT
8. unkind — AGAIN NOT

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 that starts with re- and means again, and one new word that starts with un- and means not.

AGAIN _____

NOT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one of your new words and write a sentence that shows what it means.

ANSWER KEY

Word Part Detectives

GRADE 2 · 2.4.R.3

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	reread	**AGAIN**	The part re- means read again.
2	repaint	**AGAIN**	The part re- means paint again.
3	unsafe	**NOT**	The part un- means not safe.
4	retell	**AGAIN**	The part re- means tell again.
5	unhappy	**NOT**	The part un- means not happy.
6	unfair	**NOT**	The part un- means not fair.
7	rewrite	**AGAIN**	The part re- means write again.
8	unkind	**NOT**	The part un- means not kind.

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)

- **AGAIN**: replay
- **NOT**: untidy

Challenge: I will replay the song so I can hear it again.

For Part 2, accept explanations that connect each word part to its meaning, such as 'repaint means paint again' and 'unsafe means not safe.' For Part 3, accept other correctly formed words that fit the two meanings.