Word Part Detectives

Look at where the word part goes.

3.2.PWS.2 "Students will decode words by applying knowledge of structural analysis: • contractions • abbreviations • common roots and related prefixes and suffixes • morphology"

NAME _____ DATE _____

PREFIX

A prefix is added to the beginning of a base word. In untie, un comes before tie.

untie

SUFFIX

A suffix is added to the end of a base word. In helpful, ful comes after help.

helpful

1 SORT

8 items

Circle PREFIX or SUFFIX for each word, then choose two numbered words and explain how their word parts helped you decide.

1.	rewrite	PREFIX	SUFFIX
2.	dislike	PREFIX	SUFFIX
3.	quickly	PREFIX	SUFFIX
4.	careless	PREFIX	SUFFIX
5.	teacher	PREFIX	SUFFIX
6.	preview	PREFIX	SUFFIX
7.	hopeless	PREFIX	SUFFIX
8.	playful	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 word with a prefix and one new word with a suffix.

PREFIX _____

SUFFIX _____

CHALLENGE

Write a word with both a prefix and a suffix, then split it into three parts.

ANSWER KEY

Word Part Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.2.PWS.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	rewrite	**PREFIX**	The prefix re comes before the base word write.
2	dislike	**PREFIX**	The prefix dis comes before the base word like.
3	quickly	**SUFFIX**	The suffix ly comes after the base word quick.
4	careless	**SUFFIX**	The suffix less comes after the base word care.
5	teacher	**SUFFIX**	The suffix er comes after the base word teach.
6	preview	**PREFIX**	The prefix pre comes before the base word view.
7	hopeless	**SUFFIX**	The suffix less comes after the base word hope.
8	playful	**SUFFIX**	The suffix ful comes after the base word play.

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**: unplug
- **SUFFIX**: colorful

Challenge: unkindness = un + kind + ness

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the base word and tell whether the added part comes before or after it.