Word Role Switch

Use context and a dictionary to sort nouns and verbs.

7.4.R.4 "Students will use a dictionary, glossary, or thesaurus to determine or clarify the meanings, syllabication, pronunciation, synonyms, antonyms, and parts of speech of words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

NOUN

A noun names a person, place, thing, or idea. Check the noun entry in a dictionary, then ask whether that meaning fits the sentence.

The **lantern** lit the cave.

VERB

A verb tells what someone or something does or is. Check the verb entry in a dictionary, then ask whether that meaning fits the sentence.

Fireflies **glow** after dark.

1 SORT

8 items

Use a dictionary to check each bold word, circle NOUN or VERB for its use in the sentence, then choose two items and explain how you know.

1. Their **survey** asked about school lunches. NOUN VERB
2. We **outline** the plan before writing. NOUN VERB
3. Engineers **monitor** the bridge each day. NOUN VERB
4. The **signal** came from the lighthouse. NOUN VERB
5. Her **attempt** surprised the judges. NOUN VERB
6. The classmates **debate** the rule at lunch. NOUN VERB
7. A **contrast** appears between the two paintings. NOUN VERB
8. The **report** reached the mayor on Friday. NOUN VERB

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 sentence with a noun and one with a verb; underline each word and check its part of speech in a dictionary.

NOUN _____

VERB _____

CHALLENGE

Find one word a dictionary lists as both a noun and a verb, then write two sentences that use it both ways; underline the word and label each use.

ANSWER KEY

Word Role Switch

GRADE 7 · 7.4.R.4

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Their **survey** asked about school lunches.	**NOUN**	Survey names a questionnaire.
2	We **outline** the plan before writing.	**VERB**	Outline tells what we do.
3	Engineers **monitor** the bridge each day.	**VERB**	Monitor tells what the engineers do.
4	The **signal** came from the lighthouse.	**NOUN**	Signal names a sign or message.
5	Her **attempt** surprised the judges.	**NOUN**	Attempt names an effort.
6	The classmates **debate** the rule at lunch.	**VERB**	Debate tells what the classmates do.
7	A **contrast** appears between the two paintings.	**NOUN**	Contrast names a difference.
8	The **report** reached the mayor on Friday.	**NOUN**	Report names a written account.

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)

- **NOUN**: A map hung on the wall.
- **VERB**: We climb the trail before lunch.

Challenge: NOUN: The call lasted ten minutes. VERB: I will call my cousin tonight.

For Part 2, a student might explain that survey names a questionnaire in item 1, while outline tells what people do in item 2. Accept explanations that connect the word's role in its sentence to a matching dictionary entry.