Before or After?

Use prefixes to place events in time.

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

BEFORE

The prefix **pre-** means before. Use it to tell when something happens or exists in relation to an event or period.

Preharvest planning happens before a harvest.

AFTER

The prefix **post-** means after. Use it to tell when something happens or exists in relation to an event or period.

Postharvest storage happens after a harvest.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle BEFORE or AFTER for each item; for Part 2 PROVE IT, choose one item from each category and explain how its prefix helped you sort it.

1.	predeparture checklist	BEFORE	AFTER
2.	prenatal screening	BEFORE	AFTER
3.	postmortem examination	BEFORE	AFTER
4.	prepublication review	BEFORE	AFTER
5.	postwar reconstruction	BEFORE	AFTER
6.	postoperative care	BEFORE	AFTER
7.	pretrial hearing	BEFORE	AFTER
8.	preindustrial village	BEFORE	AFTER

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one item from each category and explain how its prefix helped you sort it.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

For Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN, write one new pre- term and one new post- term, then explain what each means.

BEFORE _____

AFTER _____

CHALLENGE

In two sentences, compare what **preindustrial** and **postindustrial** suggest about a society's place in time relative to the industrial era.

ANSWER KEY

Before or After?

GRADE 9 · 9.4.R.3

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	predeparture checklist	**BEFORE**	Predeparture means before departure.
2	prenatal screening	**BEFORE**	Prenatal means before birth.
3	postmortem examination	**AFTER**	Postmortem means after death.
4	prepublication review	**BEFORE**	Prepublication means before publication.
5	postwar reconstruction	**AFTER**	Postwar means after a war.
6	postoperative care	**AFTER**	Postoperative means after an operation.
7	pretrial hearing	**BEFORE**	Pretrial means before a trial.
8	preindustrial village	**BEFORE**	Preindustrial places the village before industrialization.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one item from each category and explain how its prefix helped you sort it.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **BEFORE**: Preflight inspection means an inspection before a flight.
- **AFTER**: Postgame interview means an interview after a game.

Challenge: Preindustrial describes a society before industrialization. Postindustrial describes a society after its industrial era, not a society where industry never existed.

For Part 2, a student might explain that prenatal screening is BEFORE because pre- places it before birth. Postwar reconstruction is AFTER because post- places it after a war.