Spelling or Slip?

Sort accepted spellings from misspellings.

7.L.2.c "Spell correctly; recognizing that some words have commonly accepted variations; consult references as needed."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ACCEPTED SPELLING

A dictionary lists this as a correct spelling. Some words have more than one accepted spelling, often in different places.

Gray and grey are both accepted spellings.

MISSPELLING

This is not an accepted spelling of the intended word. Check a dictionary when you are unsure.

Definately is a misspelling of definitely.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle ACCEPTED or ERROR for each word, then choose two numbered words and explain how you knew where each belongs.

1.	colour	ACCEPTED	ERROR
2.	travelled	ACCEPTED	ERROR
3.	recieve	ACCEPTED	ERROR
4.	theatre	ACCEPTED	ERROR
5.	seperate	ACCEPTED	ERROR
6.	occured	ACCEPTED	ERROR
7.	canceled	ACCEPTED	ERROR
8.	organise	ACCEPTED	ERROR

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 accepted spelling that has another accepted form, and write one new misspelling with its correct spelling beside it.

ACCEPTED _____

ERROR _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences using different accepted spellings of the same word, and identify where each spelling is commonly used.

ANSWER KEY

Spelling or Slip?

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	colour	**ACCEPTED**	Colour is an accepted spelling, common in British English.
2	travelled	**ACCEPTED**	Travelled is an accepted spelling, common in British English.
3	recieve	**ERROR**	The correct spelling is receive.
4	theatre	**ACCEPTED**	Theatre is an accepted spelling, common in British English.
5	seperate	**ERROR**	The correct spelling is separate.
6	occured	**ERROR**	The correct spelling is occurred.
7	canceled	**ACCEPTED**	Canceled is an accepted spelling, common in American English.
8	organise	**ACCEPTED**	Organise is an accepted spelling, common in British English.

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)

- **ACCEPTED**: favorite (also favourite)
- **ERROR**: untill (correct spelling: until)

Challenge: The center of the field is muddy (common in the United States). The centre of the field is muddy (common in the United Kingdom).

For Part 2, students might explain that colour is accepted in British English and that recieve is a misspelling of receive. Accept other accurate explanations, including ones verified with a dictionary.