

First Sound Detectives

Listen to the first sound in each word.

2.2.C.ii "spelling words with silent letters such as knife and gnat;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

FIRST LETTER IS SILENT

In these words, you do not hear the first letter when you say the word.

knock

FIRST LETTER IS HEARD

In these words, you hear the first letter when you say the word.

red

1 SORT _____ 8 items

For each word, circle SILENT or HEARD, then pick two words and explain whether you hear the first letter.

1. gnat

SILENT

HEARD

2. sun

SILENT

HEARD

3. knee

SILENT

HEARD

4. knife

SILENT

HEARD

5. map

SILENT

HEARD

6. write

SILENT

HEARD

7. cat

SILENT

HEARD

8. top

SILENT

HEARD

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 SILENT word and one new HEARD word.

SILENT _____

HEARD _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence with a SILENT word. Underline its silent first letter.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	gnat	SILENT	The g is not heard.
2	sun	HEARD	The s is heard.
3	knee	SILENT	The k is not heard.
4	knife	SILENT	The k is not heard.
5	map	HEARD	The m is heard.
6	write	SILENT	The w is not heard.
7	cat	HEARD	The c is heard.
8	top	HEARD	The t is heard.

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)

- **SILENT:** knob
- **HEARD:** bed

Challenge: I tied the knot.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept correctly spelled words with a silent first letter for SILENT and words with a heard first letter for HEARD. For Part 2, students should explain whether the first letter is heard when they say each chosen word.