Word Part Detectives

Look at the beginning and ending word parts.

4.2 "Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking--beginning reading and writing. The student develops word structure knowledge through phonological awareness, print concepts..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

HAS A PREFIX

A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a base word. It can change the word's meaning.

misplace

HAS A SUFFIX

A suffix is a word part added to the end of a base word. It can change the word's meaning or job in a sentence.

joyful

1 SORT

8 items

For each word, circle PREFIX or SUFFIX, then choose two words and explain which word part helped you sort each one.

1. rewrite — PREFIX SUFFIX

2. distrust — PREFIX SUFFIX

3. fearless — PREFIX SUFFIX

4. preview — PREFIX SUFFIX

5. payment — PREFIX SUFFIX

6. runner — PREFIX SUFFIX

7. misread — PREFIX SUFFIX

8. unkind — 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 one word with both a prefix and a suffix. Put brackets around the prefix and parentheses around the suffix.

ANSWER KEY # Word Part Detectives

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	rewrite	**PREFIX**	re- is a prefix added to the beginning of write.
2	distrust	**PREFIX**	dis- is a prefix added to the beginning of trust.
3	fearless	**SUFFIX**	-less is a suffix added to the end of fear.
4	preview	**PREFIX**	pre- is a prefix added to the beginning of view.
5	payment	**SUFFIX**	-ment is a suffix added to the end of pay.
6	runner	**SUFFIX**	-er is a suffix added to the end of run. The final consonant is doubled before adding the suffix.
7	misread	**PREFIX**	mis- is a prefix added to the beginning of read.
8	unkind	**PREFIX**	un- is a prefix added to the beginning of kind.

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**: repaint
- **SUFFIX**: darkness

Challenge: [un]help(ful)

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept explanations that correctly identify a beginning prefix or an ending suffix in each chosen word. For the challenge, accept any correctly marked word that has both a prefix and a suffix.