

Weather Word Detectives

Use word parts and context clues in an informational report.

4.3.C “determine the meaning of and use words with affixes such as mis-, sub-, -ment, and -ity/ty and roots such as auto, graph, and meter; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each word built with mis-, sub-, -ment, -ity, auto, graph, or meter. In the margin, write a short clue from the sentence that helps you figure out each word.

A Park Weather Station

- ① At the river park, fourth graders helped install a small weather station. An automatic sensor sent information without a person pushing buttons. A thermometer measured air temperature, and a rain meter measured rainfall. Each afternoon, the class copied the measurements into a chart. The numbers helped them notice changes before a storm arrived in the sky each day.
- ② One morning, Mia saw a subzero reading, meaning the temperature was below zero degrees. She did not misread the display, because frost covered the grass and a puddle had frozen. The group took a photograph of the icy field. Later, they placed the photograph beside their chart so families could see the weather evidence for themselves.
- ③ The students also learned that clear writing builds credibility, or the quality of being believed. Their report explained how the tools worked and why the measurements mattered. Before printing it, they checked every number and corrected one wrong date. The final report showed careful work, not a guess, and it gave the park staff useful information.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does automatic mean in the first paragraph? Which detail helps you know?

2 What do subzero and misread mean in the second paragraph?

3 The root graph is in photograph, and meter is in thermometer and rain meter. What is a photograph, and what do the two meter tools do?

4 How do the endings -ment and -ity help you understand measurements and credibility?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write two sentences about a tool or event. Use automatic and two other words from the passage that contain one of the marked affixes or roots, and show that automatic means working by itself.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each word built with mis-, sub-, -ment, -ity, auto, graph, or meter. In the margin, write a short clue from the sentence that helps you figure out each word. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does automatic mean in the first paragraph? Which detail helps you know?	Automatic means working by itself. The sensor sent information without a person pushing buttons.
2	What do subzero and misread mean in the second paragraph?	Subzero means below zero degrees. Misread means read the display incorrectly.
3	The root graph is in photograph, and meter is in thermometer and rain meter. What is a photograph, and what do the two meter tools do?	A photograph is a picture used as weather evidence. A thermometer measures air temperature, and a rain meter measures rainfall.
4	How do the endings -ment and -ity help you understand measurements and credibility?	Measurements are numbers or results from measuring. Credibility is the quality of being believed.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

An automatic sprinkler turned on by itself at dawn and watered the garden. Its water meter recorded the amount used, and the gardener wrote the measurement in a notebook.

For the writing task, check for exactly two sentences, automatic used to mean working by itself, and two additional correctly used words with marked affixes or roots.