

Blend Break Detectives

Use consonant patterns to find syllable breaks.

5.2.B.iv "spelling words using advanced knowledge of syllable division patterns;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

KEEP A BLEND

When the consonants nearest the next vowel make a beginning blend, keep those letters with the next syllable. A blend has two consonant sounds, such as pl or tr.

re/ply

SPLIT CONSONANTS

When the consonants do not make a beginning blend, divide between them. The first consonant ends one syllable, and the next consonant begins another.

nap/kin

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle a category for each word, then choose two words and explain how the consonant group helped you decide.

1. complete

BLEND

SPLIT

2. dentist

BLEND

SPLIT

3. cactus

BLEND

SPLIT

4. distribute

BLEND

SPLIT

5. complain

BLEND

SPLIT

6. retrieve

BLEND

SPLIT

7. magnet

BLEND

SPLIT

8. subject

BLEND

SPLIT

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 BLEND word and one new SPLIT word. Mark each syllable break with a slash.

BLEND _____

SPLIT _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-syllable word with three or more consonant letters between vowels. Mark the syllable break and tell whether you kept a beginning blend together or split consonants.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	complete	BLEND	Divide com/plete. The letters pl form a beginning blend.
2	dentist	SPLIT	Divide den/tist. The letters n and t do not form a beginning blend.
3	cactus	SPLIT	Divide cac/tus. The letters c and t do not form a beginning blend.
4	distribute	BLEND	Divide dis/trib/ute. The letters tr form a beginning blend.
5	complain	BLEND	Divide com/plain. The letters pl form a beginning blend.
6	retrieve	BLEND	Divide re/trieve. The letters tr form a beginning blend.
7	magnet	SPLIT	Divide mag/net. The letters g and n do not form a beginning blend.
8	subject	SPLIT	Divide sub/ject. The letters b and j do not form a beginning blend.

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)

- **BLEND:** ex/plain
- **SPLIT:** cac/tus

Challenge: con/crete. I kept cr together because it is a beginning blend.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Expected divisions are com/plete, den/tist, cac/tus, dis/trib/ute, com/plain, re/trieve, mag/net, and sub/ject. In Part 2, accept explanations that identify a beginning blend or explain why the consonants were split.