

Prefix Spelling Detectives

Spot the words that need a spelling fix.

5.2.B.v "spelling words using knowledge of prefixes; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CORRECT SPELLING

A word in this group has a prefix and is spelled the standard way. Check that the prefix and base word have all the needed letters.

unpack

MISSPELLED WORD

A word in this group has a spelling mistake. Look for missing, extra, or wrong letters in the prefix or base word.

unpac

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle the category for each word, then choose two words and explain which letters show that each spelling is correct or needs fixing.

1. recheck

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

2. unfair

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

3. disagree

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

4. misplace

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

5. uncommon

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

6. rewrite

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

7. pretest

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

8. dislike

CORRECT

MISSPELLED

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 correctly spelled prefixed word and one new misspelled prefixed word.

CORRECT _____

MISSPELLED _____

CHALLENGE

Write a correctly spelled word with a prefix, draw a line between the prefix and base word, then write a misspelled version and correct it.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	recheck	CORRECT	re- is correctly added to check.
2	unfair	CORRECT	un- is correctly added to fair.
3	dissagree	MISSPELLED	The correct spelling is disagree, with one s after di-.
4	misplace	CORRECT	mis- is correctly added to place.
5	uncomon	MISSPELLED	The correct spelling is uncommon. Common has two m letters.
6	rewright	MISSPELLED	The correct spelling is rewrite. The base word is write, not wright.
7	pretest	CORRECT	pre- is correctly added to test.
8	dislike	CORRECT	dis- is correctly added to like.

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)

- **CORRECT:** replay
- **MISSPELLED:** replaay

Challenge: dis|trust; distrus → distrust

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a correct prefix and base word or name the missing, extra, or wrong letter. For Part 3, accept other valid prefixed words and clearly intentional misspellings that students can correct.