

Word Part Detective

Directions

1. Help your child read challenging words by having him or her practice a strategy called word part detective. In this strategy, your child is a word part detective because he or she analyzes a word like a detective. When you **analyze** a word, you **look at it closely and take it apart by its word parts**. Your child can use this strategy while reading text to figure out words he or she doesn't know.
2. Provide the activity sheet to your child. Remind your child that he or she can be a word part detective to figure out words that are challenging to read. A word part detective takes the word parts apart, reads the parts, and then reads the whole word.
3. Here is an example of something you might read: *He had an **indifferent** attitude about the movie so there was not much to talk about.* The word in bold may be a challenge to read. You can be a word part detective by following these steps:
 - Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.



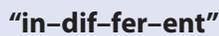
indifferent

- Underline the other vowels.



indifferent

- Say the different parts of the word.



"in-dif-fer-ent"

- Say them again fast to make it a real word.



"indifferent"

- Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence.



"He had an indifferent attitude about the movie so there was not much to talk about."

4. Help your child be a word part detective using the bolded words in the sentences on the activity sheet. After the challenging word is analyzed, discuss the meaning of each sentence.

Example

Word Part Detective Steps	He had an indifferent attitude about the movie so there was not much to talk about.
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	indifferent
2. Underline the other vowels.	indifferent
3. Say the different parts of the word.	"in-dif-fer-ent"
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	indifferent
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	He had an indifferent attitude about the movie so there was not much to talk about.

Key

This key includes examples of how your child might complete this activity. Since the first step is to "circle word parts you know," what gets circled will vary from child to child.

Word	Word Parts
disadvantage	disadvantage
unpleasing	unpleasing
intermittently	intermittently
identical	identical
undemanding	undemanding

Word Part Detective Activity Sheet

For each table:

1. Read the sentence at the top of the right column.
2. Follow the Word Part Detective steps to analyze the bolded word from the sentence.
3. Discuss the meaning of the sentence.

Word Part Detective Steps	It is fun to stay up late, but the disadvantage is that you have low energy the next day.
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	
2. Underline the other vowels.	
3. Say the different parts of the word.	
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	It is fun to stay up late, but the disadvantage is that you have low energy the next day.

Word Part Detective Steps	Some of the guests found the smell of the burning candle unpleasing .
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	
2. Underline the other vowels.	
3. Say the different parts of the word.	
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	Some of the guests found the smell of the burning candle unpleasing .

Word Part Detective Activity Sheet

For each table:

1. Read the sentence at the top of the right column.
2. Follow the Word Part Detective steps to analyze the bolded word from the sentence.
3. Discuss the meaning of the sentence.

Word Part Detective Steps	Her pet cat ate intermittently , so she never knew how much to feed her.
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	
2. Underline the other vowels.	
3. Say the different parts of the word.	
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	Her pet cat ate intermittently , so she never knew how much to feed her.

Word Part Detective Steps	Their fashion sense was identical , so they wore the same style of dress to the party.
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	
2. Underline the other vowels.	
3. Say the different parts of the word.	
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	Their fashion sense was identical , so they wore the same style of dress to the party.

Word Part Detective Activity Sheet

For each table:

1. Read the sentence at the top of the right column.
2. Follow the Word Part Detective steps to analyze the bolded word from the sentence.
3. Discuss the meaning of the sentence.

Word Part Detective Steps	I didn't have to change my regular schedule when company arrived because they were undemanding houseguests.
1. Write the word. Circle word parts you know. Look for prefixes at the beginning, suffixes at the end, and other familiar word parts.	
2. Underline the other vowels.	
3. Say the different parts of the word.	
4. Say them again fast to make it a real word.	
5. Make sure the word makes sense in the sentence. Reread the sentence saying the word.	I didn't have to change my regular schedule when company arrived because they were undemanding houseguests.