Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes

Build Words for a Garden Fair

Name _____ Date _____

Quick review Use a familiar root or affix as a clue, then check the sentence. A matching set of letters does not always have the same meaning.

Example The Latin root port means carry. In transport, the root helps suggest carrying something from one place to another.

Build each requested word and explain how its parts fit the situation. Use re- (again), pre- (before), -less (without), -ful (full of), and -able (able to be). Other accurate explanations are valid.

Labels That Help Volunteers

[1] At the school garden fair, volunteers plant seeds, paint pots, and write care cards. They need labels that explain when a job happens and describe useful supplies. Some labels add a prefix before a base word; others add a suffix after it.

1. A storm washed away the seeds, so volunteers must plant the bed again. Add a prefix to plant to name this job, and explain your choice.

2. Volunteers must wash pots before painting them. Add a prefix to wash to make a label meaning wash beforehand.

3. A plant has no thorns. Add a suffix to thorn to describe it, then explain why -ful would change the meaning.

4. A care card is full of help for new gardeners. Add a suffix to help to describe the card and use the new word in a sentence.

5. An apron can be washed after painting. Build a word from wash and a suffix to describe it, and explain the parts.

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Responses and feedback: Build Words for a Garden Fair

These are sample responses and reasoning. Accept other answers that fit the task and are supported by the text or language rule.

1. Replant. Re- means again, so replant means plant again.

Reasoning: First, identify the repeated action, planting. Next, choose re- for again and place it before plant. The lost seeds explain why the volunteers need to repeat the job.

2. Prewash means wash beforehand. Pre- tells volunteers to wash before painting.

Reasoning: First, identify when washing must happen: before painting. Next, add pre-, before, to wash. Rewash would mean wash again, which does not express the required timing.

3. Thornless means without thorns. -Ful would mean full of, not without.

Reasoning: First, connect no thorns with without. Next, choose -less and attach it after thorn. The contrasting suffix -ful would suggest the opposite idea instead of the plant's lack of thorns.

4. The helpful card explains when to water seedlings. Helpful combines help and -ful, meaning full of help.

Reasoning: First, choose -ful to express full of. Next, attach it to help. Finally, use helpful with something that provides useful guidance; other sentences showing help are valid.

5. Washable combines wash and -able. It means able to be washed.

Reasoning: First, identify the action wash. Next, add -able, able to be. The finished word fits an apron that can be cleaned by washing, not an apron that does the washing itself.