

## DICTIONARY SKILLS

### What Is a Dictionary?

A dictionary is a useful tool in the study of words. Words are listed alphabetically in a dictionary so that they are easy to find. We look up words in a dictionary to find out about the word, including how to use it, what it means, and other important attributes of the word.

### What Can We Learn from a Dictionary?

How to divide a word into syllables.....	seg/men/ta/tion
The part of speech of a word.....	opera, n. (noun)
The etymology (history) of a word.....	pumpkin, from the French word <i>pompon</i> (melon)
The pronunciation of a word.....	eddy (ed' ē)
Different meanings of the word.....	fire 1. to propel from a gun 2. to terminate employment
If there are syno.....	



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### Try This!

1] These words  
cannon      cano

- a] true
- b] false

2] What do the letters **adj.** mean after a dictionary entry for a word?

- a] adjourn
- b] adjoin
- c] adjunct
- d] adjective

3] Special symbols above vowels that tell you how to pronounce them are called **diacritical marks**.

- a] true
- b] false

4] **i vād'** shows the pronunciation of what word?

- a] evade
- b] avoid
- c] invade
- d] evaded