Name _____

When you are reading and come to a word you do not know, a dictionary can tell you what the word means and how to say it.

dis•tort (di stôrt´) *verb.* **1.** to twist the meaning of something. *The reporter* distorts *what people say.* **2.** to twist out of shape. *The mirror* distorts *my face when I look into it.*

A phonetic spelling tells you how to say the word. Notice that *distort* is divided into two parts. Each part is called a **syllable.**

The accent mark (´) after the second syllable shows you which syllable to stress when pronouncing the word.

Use the dictionary entry above to answer these questions.

1. Which meaning of *distort* do you find in the following sentence?

   Eduardo twisted the hanger and distorted its shape.

   a. Meaning #1 **b.** Meaning #2

2. True or false: *distort* has two syllables.

   a. true **b.** false

3. Which is the correct way to say *distort?*

   a. di´ stôrt **b.** di stôrt´

4. Use *distort* in a sentence of your own. Then write the number of the meaning you used.

   _____

   _____

   I used meaning # ____.

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At Home: Have the student underline the words and phrases that helped him or her figure out each word's meaning.