DISSECT

☐ D = Discover the context.
☐ I = Isolate the prefix.
☐ S = Separate the suffix.
☐ S = Say the stem.
☐ E = Examine the stem.

Follow the Rules of twos and threes:

Rule 1: If a stem, or any part of a stem, begins with a vowel, separate the first two letters and pronounce, or if the stem begins with a consonant, separate the first three letters from the rest of the stem and pronounce them.
  • Once the first two or three letters are separated from the stem, the application of the rules of twos or threes is repeated until the end of the stem is reached.
  • Then pronounce the stem by saying the separated parts.
  • If the stem can be read, the prefix and suffix are added, and read the whole word.

Rule 2: If cannot use rule 1, then use rule 2 by isolating the first letter of the stem.
  • Then try to apply rule 1 again.

Rule 3: Use rule 3 when two different vowels appear together in a word with either rule 1 or rule 2. Pronounce both vowels sounds.
  • If that does not sound correct, make one vowel sound at a time until it does sound correct.

☐ C = Check with someone.
☐ T = Try the dictionary.