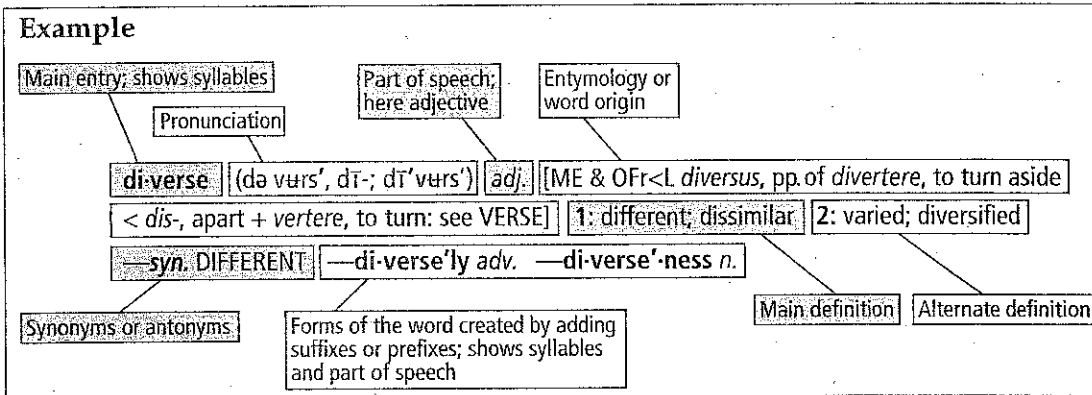


**THE NATION'S BEGINNINGS**

**Vocabulary Builder**

**Practice Dictionary Skills**

Your textbook will introduce you to many new words as you study American history. You can figure out the meanings of unfamiliar words in many ways, but a dictionary often provides the most complete information. Most dictionary entries include a word's main definition, its alternate meanings, its pronunciation, its word origins, and its part of speech. All of this information will help you better understand and use new vocabulary. The example below breaks down the different parts of a common dictionary entry for the word *diverse*.



**Directions:** Review the words and the textbook definitions listed below. Then, use a dictionary to find and record an alternate definition for each word. On a separate sheet of paper, write a sentence for each word using its textbook definition and a sentence for each word using an alternate definition.

Word	Textbook definition	Alternate definition
1. philosophy	n. theory or logical analysis of the fundamental principles of human conduct, thought, knowledge, and the nature of the universe	
2. assert	v. to state positively; declare; affirm	
3. constrain	v. to hold back; restrain	
4. advocate	v. to speak or write in support of; be in favor of	
5. exploit	v. to make use of for one's own advantage or profit	