

# Vocabulary Strategy

## USING A DICTIONARY

Since Johnson's day, dictionaries have expanded to include a variety of information on a word. Study this sample dictionary entry for the word *copious*.

**co•pi•ous** (kó pē-əs) *adj.* **1.** Yielding or containing plenty; affording ample supply; *a copious harvest*. See synonyms at **plentiful**. **2.** Large in quantity; abundant: *copious rainfall*. **3.** Abounding in manner, thoughts, or words; wordy; "*I found our speech copious without order, and energetic without rules*" (Samuel Johnson). [Middle English, from Latin *copiosus*, from *copia*, abundance]. —**cópi•ous•ly** *adv.* —**cópi•ous•ness** *n.*

**Directions:** Use the information in the sample dictionary entry to help you answer these questions.

1. What information is contained in the parentheses that immediately follow the word?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the meaning of the Latin word from which *copious* comes?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Which word does the entry state you can look up to see synonyms for *copious*?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What part of speech is *copious*?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The suffix *-ly* often means "like," "resembling," or "having the characteristics of." What do you think *copiously* means?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Is the *i* in *copious* pronounced like the *i* in *light*, *pizza*, or *skip*?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Which suffix can be added to *copious* to form a noun?

\_\_\_\_\_