

DISSECT: THE WORD IDENTIFICATION STRATEGY
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 from the rest of the stem and pronounce them
- If the stem or any part of the stem begins with a **consonant**, separate the first **three** letters from the rest of the stem and pronounce them
- Once you have separated the first two or three letters from the stem, apply the same rules until you reach the end of the stem (ex: al/ter/na/tor)

Rule 2

- Isolate the first letter of the stem and try to apply Rule 1 again. Rule 2 is especially useful when the stem begins with two or three consonants

Rule 3

- If two different vowels appear together in a word, pronounce both of the vowel sounds. If that doesn't sound right, pronounce one vowel sound at a time until it sounds right. Rule 3 can be applied in conjunction with either Rule 1 or Rule 2