

of their subjects, would not be understood by the pupils for whom the book has been prepared.

Great pains have been taken to indicate the pronunciation of all words liable to be mispronounced, *where* they occur; and in notes, placed for convenience *at the bottom of each page*, will be found full explanations of difficult or uncommon words, not only by their appropriate synonyms, but, wherever necessary, by an extended paraphrase. Biographical sketches of noted persons whose names occur in the reading exercises, and explanations of classical allusions, are also given in the notes.

It remains to be stated, that, while this volume appears as a constituent member of a series, it has been so arranged that it may be profitably used either in connection with the members of its own family, by itself, or with any other series of reading-books.



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THE
NATIONAL FOURTH READER.

PART I.

ELOCUTION.

ELOCUTION is the delivery of extemporaneous or written composition. Its more general divisions are ARTICULATION, SYLLABICATION, ACCENT, EMPHASIS, INFLECTION, MODULATION, and PAUSES.

SECTION I.—ARTICULATION.

DEFINITIONS.

1. ARTICULATION is the *distinct* utterance of the Oral Elements, in syllables and words.
2. ORAL ELEMENTS are the sounds that, uttered separately or in combination, form syllables and words.
3. ELEMENTS ARE PRODUCED by different positions of the organs of speech, in connection with the voice and the breath.
4. THE PRINCIPAL ORGANS OF SPEECH are the lips, teeth, tongue, and palate.
5. VOICE IS PRODUCED by the action of the breath upon the larynx.¹
6. ELEMENTS ARE DIVIDED into three classes: *eighteen Tonics, fifteen Subtonics, and ten Atonics.*
7. TONICS are pure tones produced by the voice, with but slight use of the organs of speech.
8. SUBTONICS are tones produced by the voice, *modified* by the organs of speech.

¹ The larynx is the upper part of the trachea, or windpipe.