Fictionary

About: Though glossaries of words have been used since the 2nd century, the version of the dictionary we are most familiar with was first written in 1755. Samuel Johnson’s A Dictionary of the English Language provided an alphabetical list of words and their definitions. In the 1800’s, dictionaries gave rise to the popular game currently known as Fictionary.

Number of players: at least 4

Other supplies: a pencil for each player, strips of paper to write on, a dictionary, a hat.

Instructions:

1. One player is chosen to pick a random, uncommonly used word from the dictionary and read the word aloud to the other players. The definition will NOT be read but will be written down on a strip of paper.
2. The strip of paper with the true definition will be folded and placed into the hat.
3. The other players will then write down what they believe the definition is on strips of paper (one guess per player).
4. All guesses will be put into the hat as well.
5. The player who read the word will then read all the definitions and the other players will have to guess which is the true definition.
6. Players will vote as each definition is read aloud and the vote will be tallied on the back of the definition voted for.
7. The goal is to identify the true definition and to write a convincing definition of your own to get the other players to vote for it.
8. Then the player who chose the word will reveal which definition is the true definition. The player to get the most votes for his/her definition wins as many points as they got votes. For example: if 3 people voted for a single definition, the player who wrote that definition would get 3 points.
9. Every player voted for the true definition, also receives 1 point.
10. If no one votes for the true definition, the player who chose the word from the dictionary receives a point.
11. The definitions (with the tally votes on the back) are returned to their owners so they can keep track of their score.
12. The player with the highest score is the next to choose a word from the dictionary.

Additional Notes:

- You can summarize or adjust the wording of the true definition if it is too long/complicated. This has the added benefit of disguising the true definition.