

Word Feelings: Connotation

6th Grade • ELA

Level 1 • Warm-Up: sort words by the feeling they carry

Name _____

Date _____

Example

Denotation is a word's dictionary meaning. **Connotation** is the feeling it carries. *Thrifty*, *careful* and *stingy* all describe someone who saves money (same denotation), but *thrifty* feels **positive**, *careful* feels **neutral**, and *stingy* feels **negative**.

Each row has three words with almost the same denotation. Write each word in the column that matches its connotation.

Words	Positive +	Neutral 0	Negative -
1. stench • aroma • smell			
2. scrawny • slender • thin			
3. sure • arrogant • confident			
4. stubborn • determined • firm			
5. young • youthful • childish			
6. inactive • lazy • relaxed			
7. cozy • cramped • small			
8. old • outdated • vintage			

Safari Challenge

Pick one row. Write a sentence that uses the **negative** word, then rewrite it with the **positive** word. How does the picture in your mind change?



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Level 1 • Answer Key

1. Positive: **aroma** • Neutral: **smell** • Negative: **stench**
2. Positive: **slender** • Neutral: **thin** • Negative: **scrawny**
3. Positive: **confident** • Neutral: **sure** • Negative: **arrogant**
4. Positive: **determined** • Neutral: **firm** • Negative: **stubborn**
5. Positive: **youthful** • Neutral: **young** • Negative: **childish**
6. Positive: **relaxed** • Neutral: **inactive** • Negative: **lazy**
7. Positive: **cozy** • Neutral: **small** • Negative: **cramped**
8. Positive: **vintage** • Neutral: **old** • Negative: **outdated**

Safari Challenge: Answers will vary. Example: "The cabin was cramped." becomes "The cabin was cozy." The second sentence makes the small space sound warm and inviting.





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