

**LESSON NOTES****School: Ba Sangam College****Year/Level: 13****Name: _____****Subject: English****Worksheet 12****Year: _____**

Strand	Reading and Viewing
Sub Strand	Language Features and Rules
Content Learning Outcome	Apply knowledge of language features and structure and how they shape meanings in a variety of texts.

DENOTATION AND CONNOTATION

Denotation is another word for the literal, dictionary definition of a word. Connotation is the associated meaning of the word beyond the literal definition. It carries the cultural and emotional associations of a word.

1. Connotation 1 (emotional charge): *Every* word has a negative, positive or neutral **connotation** or association. In this case, understanding connotation enhances understanding of the implied meaning, tone and purpose beyond a word's literal definition.
 - "Youth" = positive connotation (or association); "Juvenile" = negative connotation; "Adolescent" = neutral connotation.
 - "Request" or "Remind" = positive connotation; "Whine" or "Nag" = negative connotation; "Ask" = neutral connotation.
 - "Assertive" = positive; "Bossy" = negative; "Dominant" = neutral.
 - "Senior" = positive; "Old" = negative; "Elderly" = neutral.
2. Connotation 2 (symbolic meaning): *Some* words have a secondary, figurative or symbolic association or **connotation**. In this case, the word takes on a completely new meaning completely unrelated to the literal meaning of the word:
 - Snake: An evil, devious or immoral person.
 - Chicken: A coward.
 - Pig: A vulgar person or slob.
 - Sweet: Cool, awesome or fun.
 - Stepping stone: Used to mean small advancements or achievement en route to achieving a goal.
3. Denotation: The literal, dictionary definition of a word.




Emotional Connotation

Every word has a negative, positive or neutral connotation or emotional association. In this case, understanding connotation enhances understanding of the implied meaning, tone, and purpose beyond a word's literal definition.

- Positive Connotation: Youthful, Assertive, Senior, Remind
- Neutral Connotation: Adolescent, Dominant, Elderly, Ask
- Negative Connotation: Juvenile, Bossy, Old, Whine

Identify and Define Emotional Connotations

by Lauren Martin / M.Ed.

Juvenile	Adolescent	Youth
		
<p>Negative: The word, juvenile, has a negative connotative meaning because there are cultural associations with "juvenile delinquent," "juvenile detention" and prison.</p>	<p>Neutral: Adolescent is a neutral synonym for teenager since it is the objective, professional way to label a person between 13 and 19. It is not negative or positive.</p>	<p>Positive: Youth has positive connotative associations from media and advertisement promotions of "youthful beauty," "youthful glow," "youthful enthusiasm," etc.</p>

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PIXTON EXERCISE 15 MARKS

a) *Underline the word that has a positive connotation.*

1. Our trip to the park was (fine, wonderful).
2. (Brave, Foolhardy) people rode on the roller coaster.
3. We saw a (fascinating, weird) animal in the animal house.
4. Some of the monkeys made (hilarious, amusing) faces.
5. Everyone had a (smile, smirk) on his or her face on the way home.

b) *Underline the word that has a negative connotation.*

1. We bought (cheap, inexpensive) furniture.
2. I ate a (soggy, moist) sandwich.
3. Mike (reminded, nagged) us to go the farm.
4. I didn't like the (smirk, grin) on the clown's face.
5. It made me feel (uneasy, frightened).

c) *Answer the following questions.*

1. Which is worth more, something old or something antique? _____
2. Is it better to be slender or skinny? _____
3. Which would you rather be called, cheap or thrifty? _____

4. Is it more polite to sip or gulp a drink? _____
5. If you haven't eaten for days, would you be hungry or starving? _____