

PREVIEW  
NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

PREVIEW  
NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL & USE  
*Denotation*

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**PREVIEW**  
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How would you define  
**NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE** the word:

**GRAY**  
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**GRAY**  
a color that is a mixture of black and  
white?  
or  
somber, sad, dreary,  
cloudy, dull, drab, depressing?

**Both are right!**  
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Words can have two meanings...  
a **literal** one and a **suggestive** one.

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**Connotations** are the mental connections we make with certain words, although they might not be their original, intended meaning.

**Denotations** are the literal, dictionary definitions.

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What suggested meanings does  
the word **HOME** entail?  
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It's more than just the territory you reside. It's where your family lives, your pets, and where you host traditions.

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It connotes LOVE, COMFORT, CLOSENESS.  
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Think about the word: **CLEAN**

Denotation: free from dirt or stains.

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What is the connotation of the word clean in the following sentence?

Jason's dad is a nutritionist and so they only eat **clean** food.

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**WORD CHOICE MATTERS!**

Which bracelet is cute and which  
one is elegant?

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Two words with similar denotations  
can have different connotations.

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**Cute** = attractive in a pretty or  
endearing way.  
**Elegant** = pleasingly pretty and stylish in  
appearance or manner.

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# PREVIEW NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

Words can have positive, negative,  
or neutral connotations.

# NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE **YOUNG, YOUTHFUL, JUVENILE**

Look at the synonymous words above.

**Which one is Positive? Negative? Neutral?**

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## CONNOTATIONS:

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Young = neutral (not bad or good, objective)

Youthful = positive (full of life, happy)

Juvenile = negative (troublesome, immature)

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**PRACTICE SOME MORE!**

**POSITIVE, NEGATIVE, OR NEUTRAL?**

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Janie was **simple**; she liked her French fries without ketchup.

Janie was **plain**; she liked her French fries without ketchup.

Janie was **dull**; she liked her French fries without ketchup.

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## POSITIVE, NEGATIVE, OR NEUTRAL? PREVIEW

Justin was **confident** that he would win the game.

Justin was **cocky** thinking he would win the game.

Justin was **sure** that their team would win the game.

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## PREVIEW NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

# PREVIEW NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

**POSITIVE, NEGATIVE, OR NEUTRAL?**

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Joe **demolished** his wooden shed.

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Joe **knocked** down his wooden shed.

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Joe **disassembled** his wooden shed.

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# PREVIEW NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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**POSITIVE, NEGATIVE, OR NEUTRAL?**

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She had a **colorful** personality.  
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She had an **unusual** personality.

She had a **unique** personality.

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**POSITIVE, NEGATIVE, OR NEUTRAL?**

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The governor **directed** that flags be lowered to half-staff.

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The governor **requested** that flags be lowered to half-staff.

The governor **commanded** that flags be lowered to half-staff.

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**reckless**

**thoughtful**

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**antisocial**

**bossy**

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**easygoing**

**cheap**

**NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE**

**lazy**

**youthful**

**NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE**

childish

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original

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refreshing

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bargain

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reserved

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stubborn

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aroma

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determined

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**busy**  
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**careful**

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**helpful**  
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**attentive**

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**social**  
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**jealous**

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**guarded**  
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**chivalrous**

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# Teacher Guide

Part 1: Review PowerPoint notes and practice with students.

## PowerPoint Answers: positive, negative, or neutral?

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Janie was **simple**; she liked her French fries without ketchup. **positive**

Janie was **plain**; she liked her French fries without ketchup. **neutral**

Janie was **dull**; she liked her French fries without ketchup. **negative**

Justin was **confident** that he would win the game. **positive**

Justin was **cocky** thinking he would win the game. **negative**

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Justin was **sure** that their team would win the game. **neutral**

Joe **demolished** his wooden shed. **negative**

Joe **knocked** down his wooden shed. **neutral**

Joe **disassembled** his wooden shed. **positive**

She had a **colorful** personality. **positive**

She had an **unusual** personality. **negative**

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The governor **directed** that flags be lowered to half-staff. **neutral**

The governor **requested** that flags be lowered to half-staff. **positive**

The governor **commanded** that flags be lowered to half-staff. **negative**

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Part 2: Print out word cards ahead of time; make sure you print enough for several groups. Distribute the words into plastic bags for students. Divide students into groups and give each group a bag. Ask students to separate the words based on connotation. They should have three columns: positive, negative, and neutral. For additional practice, ask groups to write an original sentence for 10 words that demonstrate the connotation.

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**Sorting Cards Answer Guide**  
**Some answers will vary.**

**Negative**

reckless, antisocial, childish, bossy, lazy, cheap, stubborn, jealous

**Positive**

thoughtful, youthful, refreshing, bargain, aroma, determined, helpful, chivalrous

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**Neutral**

easygoing, original, reserved, busy, careful, attentive, social, guarded

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