

## Denotation and Connotation



A word's denotation is its dictionary definition. But a word can also evoke certain thoughts and feelings. The thoughts and feelings associated with a certain word are called the connotation of the word. Words with the same denotation can have different connotations. Connotations can be positive, negative or neutral.

**DIRECTIONS:** Each pair of phrases includes synonyms with different connotations. Put a + sign on the line next to the one with a positive connotation, and a – on the line next to the one with a negative connotation.

1. A strong reek	_____	6. Spoke with arrogance	_____
A strong aroma	_____	Spoke with confidence	_____
2. A charismatic leader	_____	7. Ratty clothes	_____
A pushy leader	_____	Casual clothes	_____
3. Squandered his time	_____	8. An aggressive stance	_____
Invested his time	_____	A hostile stance	_____
4. A bold plan	_____	9. Easygoing attitude	_____
A reckless plan	_____	Lazy attitude	_____
5. Energetic dogs	_____	10. Thoughtful response	_____
Rambunctious dogs	_____	Calculated response	_____