

# Denotation **VS** Connotation

Name:

Teacher:

Class:

Date:

**1. Learning Target:** I will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of a word and \_\_\_\_\_ how \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of a text.

## **2. Denotation:**

## **3. Connotation:**

*There are many words that denote the same thing, but their connotations are very different.*

- **Example: Greasy -**

## **4. Word Meanings:**

- **Awful:**
- **Bully:**
- **Cute:**

## **5. Tone of a Text:**

- There are over 2,000 **vagrants** in the city.
- There are over 2,000 **people with no fixed address** in the city.
- There are over 2,000 **homeless** in the city.

# ACTIVITY

I. Choose one of the words, define it, and then explain some of the different connotations associated with that word.

Words: *Girl, Baby, Cheap, Sick*

Word Chosen:

Denotation:

Connotations:

II. Look at the word pairings. Determine if each word has a positive or a negative connotation and place it in the appropriate box.

*Inexpensive / Cheap*  
*Immature / Youthful*

*Natural / Plain*  
*Snob / Cultured*

*Chilly / Refreshing*  
*Skinny / Slender*

**+ Connotation**

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**- Connotation**

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III. Watch the video clip and find an example where the denotation of a word used is different than the connotation evoked.

Word:

Denotation:

Connotation:

IV. Read the two passages and determine which passage evokes a positive connotation and which passage evokes a negative connotation. Then, highlight the words in each passage that influence the tone of the text.

Passage #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Connotation

Deserts encompass almost one fifth of the Earth's land surface. Vast stretches of empty sand stretch over a barren, secluded landscape. The endless sea of sand shifts constantly with the wind over the solitary scene. Scarce foliage inhabits the stark environment. The desolate land supports little life. Solitary snakes and lizards seek out enough food to exist. The extreme heat of the day withers the land, making it barren and dry. The night is cold and desolate.

Passage #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Connotation

Deserts make up a fifth of the Earth's land surface. Light brown and bright gold sand shifts with the winds, forming graceful eddies and patterns across the landscape. Cacti wait ready to bloom at the first sign of rain. Seeds lie ready in the ground; roots wait to send up shoots with the possibility of rain. Snakes and lizards bask in the sun or find cover under rocks in the heat of the day. The sun warms the desert by day. The nights are cool and offer respite from the day's heat.

Write 3 sentences of summary about our Learning Target.
