

Positive and Negative Connotation #1

Some words have similar meanings but different connotations. A word's **connotation** is the **emotion** that goes along with a word in addition to its meaning.



Directions: Each sentence has a pair of words with different connotations. Circle the word with the more **positive** connotation.

1. My brother always asks a lot of questions because he is so **nosy** / **curious**.
2. Our new puppy, Bonkers, often jumps on visitors because he is so **energetic** / **hyperactive**.
3. Did you see the way Alex **smiled** / **smirked** at me in the hallway?
4. One of my favorite things about the beach is the salty **odor** / **scent** of the ocean.
5. Grandma Joni always has such a **childish** / **youthful** spirit during the holidays.
6. My brother and I spent the whole meal **debating** / **arguing** which movie was better.
7. Olivia has a **quirky** / **strange** collection of cat figurines made out of rubber bands.
8. Aunt Cindy has an **old** / **antique** wooden desk dating back to the 1800s.
9. Andrew smiled **proudly** / **smugly** as he walked up to give his speech to the class.
10. Everyone who knows Kara agrees that she is the most **determined** / **stubborn** kid on the planet!
11. Sara's **thrifty** / **stingy** ways will allow her to save enough money for a new camera.
12. Weston followed his **reckless** / **daring** impulse to go on a real adventure.
13. Willow is **picky** / **selective** about the brand of yarn she buys for making blankets.
14. After months of work, I finally finished the most **difficult** / **challenging** puzzle ever!
15. The entire house was **filled** / **crowded** with visitors all wanting to wish Sam a happy birthday.
16. On my first day at my new school, a few of my classmates asked if I wanted to join their **clique** / **club**.
17. The restless crowd was **impatient** / **eager** for the band to start the show.