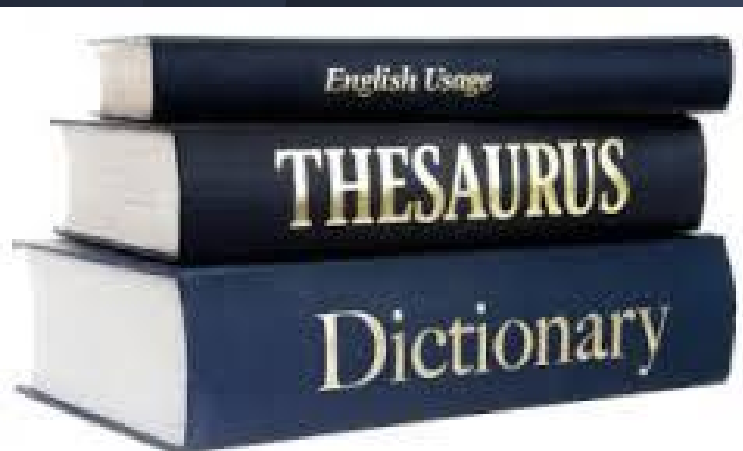


# Denotation & Connotation

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## Connotation vs. Denotation

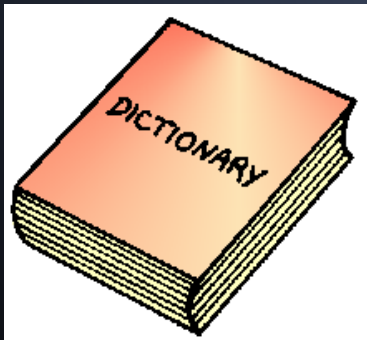
**Objective:** I will explain the difference between connotation and denotation. I will pay attention to authors' word choice and determine the connotation of words in text.

# Definitions

**DENOTATION:** precise and exact **definition** of a **word**

**CONNOTATION:** describes the **images** and **feelings** called up by a **particular word**, rather than its strict definition

<http://wisegeek.com>



# Purpose of Denotation & Connotation

**DENOTATION:** Explaining a neutral feel about the word. It is most commonly used in biographies and papers.

**CONNOTATION:** Making the word to have a certain feel. It makes the reader think in a certain way. It is most commonly used in Fictional Stories and Novels.

# Examples of Denotation & Connotation



**DENOTATION:** The photo presents a boy riding a bike.

**CONNOTATION:** For viewers, this could stir up their own personal experiences with learning how to ride a bike, childhood memories of playing outside, etc.



**DENOTATION:** The photo presents a crowd of people gathered at Times Square.

**CONNOTATION:** Seeing this picture could bring up thoughts of New Years' Eve at Times Square, the hustle and bustle of a city life, etc.



**DENOTATION:** This obviously a digitally altered image of a clown walking down a street with people.

**CONNOTATION:** The digital manipulation of this image might symbolize standing out, being different, and having a sense of individually.

# QUIZ!!!

## (Multiple Choice)

1. Buster was a puny dog. He couldn't even scare that cat that lived next door.

What is the dictionary meaning of the word "puny" in the sentence above?

- 1) small
- 2) large
- 3) noisy
- 4) heavy

2. Helen was guarded about her private life. She would not give anyone her phone number and address.

What does the word "guarded" suggest about Helen in the sentence above?

- 1) She was excited about her life.
- 2) She does not care about her life.
- 3) She is protective over her life.
- 4) She is bored with her life.

3. Benjamin was a lanky kid. He was the tallest kid in class, and he was not a big kid. His mom packed him a huge lunch in the hopes he would get some more muscle on his bony arms and legs.

What is the dictionary meaning of the word "lanky" in the sentence above?

- 1) huge and tall
- 2) tall and thin
- 3) muscular and tall
- 4) thin and short

4. An idea or feeling that a word invokes

- 1) denotation
- 2) connotation

5. The dictionary definition of a word

- 1) denotation
- 2) connotation



# ANSWERS!!!

1. Small (1)

2. She is protective over her life. (3)

3. Tall and Thin (2)

4. Connotation (2)

5. Denotation (1)