



ELA Virtual Learning

English III / Connotative Meaning

April 22, 2020



Lesson: April 22, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- Analyze connotative meaning in a story
- Use context clues to determine the meaning of words and phrases in a story

Bell Ringer

Flea-bag



Mutt

Hound

The use of different words to describe a dog can conjure different images in someone's mind. Consider the words around the picture of the dog. How does each word affect how you would picture a dog in your mind?

Man's Best Friend

Puppy Seeing-Eye-Dog

Learn

1. Watch this brief explanation of [denotation and connotation](#).
2. Read the following excerpt from [*The Fall of the House of Usher*](#) by Edgar Allen Poe.
3. There are several words in the excerpt that have negative connotations. Identify these words and think about how they affect the mood and tone of the story.

Practice

Your task for this lesson is to rewrite the excerpt that you read with the goal of establishing a positive tone. Think about which words or phrases you will need to replace with words that have positive connotations.

Use the highlighting tool on Google Docs to highlight the changes you make.

Practice Answer Key

(Answers will vary)

Check your answer to make sure it meets the following criteria:

- The response is written in complete sentences free of major spelling and grammatical errors.
- A positive tone is established through the use of words or phrases with positive connotations.

See an example of a proficient answer on the next slide.

Sample Proficient Answer

- 1.) During the whole of a lively, sunny day in the summer of the year, when the clouds flew freely high in the heavens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, through a singularly pleasant tract of country; and at length found myself, as the shades of the evening drew on, within view of the magnificent House of Usher. I know not how it was --but, with the first glimpse of the building, a sense of excitement pervaded my spirit.

Questions for Reflection

1. How could connotation be used for persuasive writing?
2. What are examples of music lyrics that have positive or negative connotations?
3. How can you use your understanding of denotation and connotation to improve your writing?

Additional Resources

- Read the full version of [*The Fall of the House of Usher*](#)

