**Positive Connotation Vs. Negative Connotation**

Basically, the power or the effect a word can have on people can be linked to the connotation or the emotional association that is ascribed to a word. Euphemism is the use of milder words in place of words that might be considered harsh, rude, or offensive. It is a way of conveying the meaning with gentler words, so as to avoid being rude. If you wish to inform your friend about an irritating habit of his or hers, you can use the words that have a favorable or positive connotation.



**Connotation Exercise**

Below are groups of similar words used to describe people. What is the connotation of each word? Above each word make a +, -, or 0 for neutral

1. Childlike, Youthful, Childish, Young
2. Disabled, Crippled, Handicapped, Retarded
3. Relaxed, Laid-back, Lackadaisical, Easygoing
4. Slim, Skinny, Slender, Thin
5. Cheap, Frugal, Miserly, Economical
6. Adolescent, Immature, Juvenile, Innocent
7. Inquisitive, Interested, Curious, Prying
8. Confident, Secure, Proud, Egotistical
9. Lovely, Knockout, Beautiful, Stunning
10. Talkative, Conversational, Chatty, Jabbering

**Prefixes and Suffixes**

* Prefixes and suffixes are added to words to change them.
* Prefixes are added to change the meaning of the root word.
* Suffixes are added so that the word will make grammatical sense in a sentence.

**Prefix Examples: Your own word with the prefix**

a-, an- = without; *amoral, anemic* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ante- = before; *antecedent* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

co- = with; *co-worker* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

de- = off, remove; *de-ice* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ex =out of, former; *ex-boyfriend* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

il = not; *illegal* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

inter = between; *intergalactic* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

post = after; *postpone* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

super = above; *supersede* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

un = not; *unnatural* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Suffix Examples: Your own word with the suffix**

–al = having characteristics of; *remedial, denial* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–ed = past-tense verbs; *traveled, talked* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–en = made of, consisting of; *wooden, golden* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–er, -est = comparative; *stronger, strongest* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–tion, -ion = state of being, condition; *completion, relation* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–ity = quality of; *humility, enormity* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–less = without; *hopeless, homeless* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–ly = characteristic of; *brotherly, lovely* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

–s, -es = more than one; *apples, trenches* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_