

Connotation Explained Answer Key

Sample Explanations (student answers may vary, but these capture the expected ideas):

1. *Slim* suggests attractiveness and health (positive), while *skinny* often suggests weakness or being underfed (negative).
2. *Curious* shows eagerness to learn (positive), but *nosy* suggests intruding into private matters (negative).
3. *Economical* means wisely managing money (positive), but *cheap* implies poor quality or stinginess (negative).
4. *Childlike* conveys innocence and wonder (positive), while *childish* conveys immaturity or silliness (negative).
5. *Confident* suggests self-assurance and ability (positive), while *arrogant* implies conceit or superiority (negative).
6. *Home* carries feelings of warmth, family, and belonging (positive/emotional), while *house* simply means a physical building (neutral).

Teacher Notes / Guide:

- This worksheet develops **critical thinking** about how subtle differences in word choice shape tone.
- Encourage students to support answers with **contextual examples** (e.g., "He looks slim in that suit" vs. "He looks skinny after being sick").
- Accept variation in answers, as long as reasoning is based on **connotation vs. denotation**.