

Emotional Impact Vocabulary Answer Key

- Positive Connotation: **assertive, slender, persistent, confident**
- Neutral Denotation: **inexpensive**
- Negative Connotation: **bossy, skinny, cheap, stubborn, arrogant**

Explain the Emotional Impact

1. Answers will vary. Should explain how a positive word creates admiration or approval.
2. Answers will vary. Should explain how a negative word creates criticism or discomfort.
3. Answers will vary. Must correctly identify similar denotations with different emotional tones, such as **assertive** versus **bossy** or **slender** versus **skinny**.

Teacher's Guide

- Using this worksheet
 - Review the definitions of **denotation** and **connotation** before students begin.
 - Emphasize that words with similar dictionary meanings can create very different emotional responses.
 - Encourage students to justify each sort with reasoning, not guessing.
- Differentiation
 - Support: Allow students to work with a partner and discuss word feelings aloud.
 - Challenge: Have students rank the words from most positive to most negative and defend their choices.
- Engagement
 - Conduct a quick class poll on which word pairs felt the most different emotionally.
 - Invite volunteers to read revised sentences and explain how the tone changed.