

Name: _____ Date: _____

DENOTATION/CONNOTATION EXERCISES

I. For each pair of words and a phrase, list the one that is positive in the “Positive Connotation” category, the one that is negative in the “Negative Connotation” category, and the phrase that is a more neutral definition for both words in the "Denotation" column.

Define denotation: _____

Define connotation: _____

Your Choices:

1. gaze, look steadily, stare	11. observe, watch, spy
2. fragrance, odor, a smell sensed by the olfactory nerve	12. a young age, youthful, immature
3. brainwash, persuade, influence one way or another	13. not having a care, irresponsible, carefree,
4. delayed, not on time, tardy	14. unique, not commonly found, strange
5. somewhat interested, nosy, curious	15. find, detect, snoop
6. lazily, without haste, leisurely	16. inexpensive, fairly priced, or cheap
7. ask of someone, demand, request	17. isolation, privacy, having an opportunity to be alone
8. gathering, a large group, mob	18. assertive, firmly confident, pushy
9. slim, skinny, less than average build	19. extravagance, generosity, giving much,
10. discuss with others, debate, argue	

	Positive Connotation	Denotation	Negative Connotation
1	gaze	Look steadily	stare
2	fragrance	a smell sensed by the olfactory nerve	odor
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