

LESSON

17

PRACTICE WORKSHEET A

COPYMASTER

Denotation and Connotation

**A. Directions:** Read each vocabulary word. Then read its two synonyms. Put a plus sign (+) next to any synonym with a *positive* connotation. Put a minus sign (–) next to any synonym with a *negative* connotation.

Vocabulary Word	Synonym	+ / –	Synonym	+ / –
1. aggressive	go-getting		pushy	
2. well-known	notorious		famous	
3. thin	scrawny		lean	
4. clever	Witty		sly	
5. colorful	gaudy		bright	

**B. Directions:** In each example, decide what connotation the *italicized* word has. Write *P* for a *positive* or *N* for a *negative* connotation. Use the hint and context clues as a guide. Then explain your answer in a sentence.

6. **EXAMPLE:** Her outfit was much too *showy* for a casual party. \_\_\_\_\_

**HINT:** *Showy* can mean “striking” (+) or “flamboyant” (–). \_\_\_\_\_

7. **EXAMPLE:** Doesn’t the *smell* of cookies baking call up happy memories? \_\_\_\_\_

**HINT:** The noun *smell* can mean “aroma” (+) or “stink” (–). \_\_\_\_\_

8. **EXAMPLE:** The soldier knew instantly that she had received a *serious* wound. \_\_\_\_\_

**HINT:** *Serious* can mean “businesslike” (+) or “grave” (–). \_\_\_\_\_

9. **EXAMPLE:** We admired the *old* craft of the carver, who turned wood into art. \_\_\_\_\_

**HINT:** *Old* can mean “ancient” (+) or “timeworn” (–). \_\_\_\_\_

10. **EXAMPLE:** He is *smart* enough to do well in math, if he would only study. \_\_\_\_\_

**HINT:** *Smart* can mean “intelligent” (+) or “disrespectful” (–). \_\_\_\_\_