

## Academic Vocabulary Week 1

**connotation:** *an idea or quality that a word makes you think about in addition to its meaning*

The word thin has a more positive connotation than the word skinny.

Q: If someone called you a work-a-holic, that's not very flattering. The word has a negative connotation. You would rather be described as \_\_\_\_\_.

**denotation:** *the basic, literal meaning of a word or phrase*

To find the denotation of a word, just look in the dictionary.

Q: The word control means "to command, restrain or manage." When applied to an airline pilot, this word has a \_\_\_\_\_ connotation. When applied to a person in a relationship, it has a \_\_\_\_\_ connotation. In either case, the denotation of "control" is the \_\_\_\_\_.

**theme:** *the central, controlling idea of a work of literature.*

Just like stories, films also have themes. The theme can be determined by considering what happens, the struggles or problems that the characters face, and the characters themselves and how they grow and change.

Q: What is your favorite childhood movie and what would you say the theme of it is?

**tone:** the writer's attitude toward his/her subject.

Examples of tone include humorous, serious, and sarcastic.

Q: What tone do you expect in a science textbook?

Q: What tone might you expect in a love letter?

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade English Fall