

Author's Word Choice Notes: Connotation/Denotation

connotation: an idea or feeling that a word invokes in addition to its literal or primary meaning.

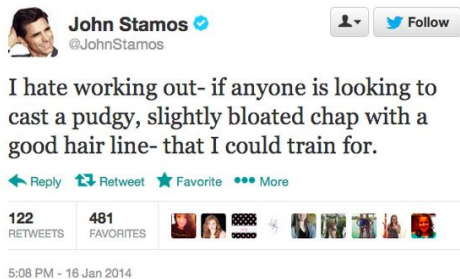
denotation: the literal or primary meaning of a word; the dictionary definition

Words with strong connotations

Authors use certain words to support the message or theme of their text. In the following tweet, the author uses words like cry and smile in their tweet. **Using the resources provided, substitute the words with synonyms that have stronger connotations but keep the same meaning. .**



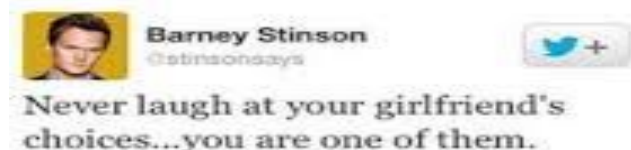
Don't _____ because it's over,
_____ because it happened.



In this tweet, the author uses synonyms for overweight that have a stronger connotation. Locate them and write them on the line below:

Words with neutral connotations

Authors sometimes use neutral language to appeal to multiple audiences. The following tweet uses rather neutral language. Words like laugh and choice have a neutral connotation- they evoke neither positive nor negative emotions. .



Using the list, find a synonym for the word "laugh" that will strengthen the connotation.

Never _____ at your girlfriend's choices...you are one of them.

Changing the Meaning with Word Choice

The author of this tweet wants the reader to know that his wife doesn't understand how valuable he is to her. By changing a single word, we can change the meaning



Changed words: *Kim doesn't understand what a **curse** I am to her*

By replacing **blessed** with its antonym, **cursed**, the meaning of the entire tweet has been altered.



My daughter's only 6 months old and already drawing. I'd hang it on the fridge but honestly, it's absolute garbage.

3:42 PM - 19 Jun 2015

Reply Retweet Like 76,856 121,599

Below, write a word that could replace "garbage" that would change the meaning of this tweet.



Synonyms for:

cry *noun* weeping and making sad sounds

| | | | |
|-------|---------|---------|------|
| howl | lament | sob | bawl |
| yowl | whimper | blubber | keen |
| mourn | snivel | wail | weep |

Synonyms for:

smile *verb* put on a happy expression

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| beam | grin | laugh | smirk | simper | be gracious |
| express friendliness | express tenderness | look amused | look delighted | look happy | look please |

Synonyms for:

Laugh *verb* to make the spontaneous sounds of lively amusement

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| chuckle | chortle | giggle | squeal | snicker | yuk |
| gaffaw | hoot | crack up | cackle | twitter | tee-hee |