



Word Connotations and Denotations

Today's Standard

7.L.5c - Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., refined, respectful, polite, diplomatic, condescending).

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing word choice in literature and media; Improving descriptive writing by selecting appropriate words; Understanding nuanced meanings in historical texts; Identifying biased language in news articles; Enhancing vocabulary for persuasive writing

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about the different feelings or associations that words with similar meanings can have. For example, 'polite' and 'diplomatic' both mean being nice, but 'diplomatic' can also mean being careful with words.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Kids might think that words with similar meanings can always be used the same way. They might also think that words always have the same good or bad feeling. But, words can change their feeling based on how they are used.

Quiz Me

- What does 'connotation' mean?
- What does 'denotation' mean?
- Can words with the same meaning always be used the same way?
- How can a word's feeling change?
- Why is it important to know the difference between connotation and denotation?

Help Me

Words can have different feelings or associations, even if they have the same basic meaning. For example, 'polite' and 'diplomatic' both mean being nice, but 'diplomatic' can also mean being careful with words. Knowing these differences can help you understand what you read and choose better words when you write.

