

Exploring connotations

Connotations are the nuances and shades of meaning that go beyond the dictionary definition of a word. While they can be different for different people, there is often a range of shared connotations related to richer, more descriptive words.

1. Certain words and phrases have connotations linked to certain emotions. Look at the various synonyms for *walked* in the table below. Match them with an emotional connotation in the second column. It may help to mentally replace them with the word *walked* in a sentence such as *Nora walked into the room*.

Synonym for walked	Emotional connotation
bounced	angry
strutted	happy
stalked	sad
shuffled	proud
Add one of your own:	

2. Read the following paragraph. Rewrite it on the lines below, replacing the words in **bold type** with richer words or phrases with connotations that match the context of the paragraph:

Nora **walked** into the classroom. Everyone could tell something was wrong. She put her books on her desk and everyone around her jumped. 'All right!' she **said**. 'Who put the **unpleasant** goo into my school bag?'

3. Pick one of your substitutions in Question 2 and explain why you chose it.
