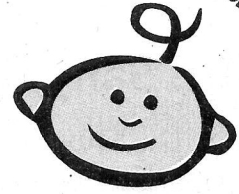


Good or Bad?

shades of meaning

youthful



A Are you good at picking up hints? Some words hint at good or bad meanings. Such words are said to have *connotations*. All of the words below have good (positive) or bad (negative) connotations. As you study these words, think about the shades of meaning that were introduced to you in Lesson 21.

- observant** (əb zûr' vənt) *An observant person carefully notices things.* (adjective)
Cheryl was so **observant** that she saw every tiny change in the ant farm.
- prying** (prī' ĭng) *A prying person snoops into things that should be private.* (adjective)
The famous singer protects her family from **prying** reporters.
- youthful** (yōōth' fəl) *A youthful person is young and energetic.* (adjective)
My **youthful** grandmother often goes in-line skating with me.
- immature** (im' ə tyōōr') *An immature person is childish and self-centered.* (adjective)
My **immature** ten-year-old brother kicked the furniture in anger when he was not allowed to watch a movie.
- fearless** (fîr' līs) *A fearless person is brave and does not feel fear.* (adjective)
George Washington was a **fearless** soldier who often led his men into battle.
- reckless** (rĕk' līs) *A reckless person is careless and takes stupid or silly risks.* (adjective)
Two **reckless** drivers raced on a crowded highway.
- determined** (dĭ tûr' mĭnd) *Someone who is determined is serious and dedicated to achieving a goal.* (adjective)
Mariah was **determined** to get an *A* on her science project.
- stubborn** (stüb' ərn) *A stubborn person is not willing to give in or change.* (adjective)
Jim isn't a good team member because he is so **stubborn** that he always wants to do things his way.

Draw a line between each vocabulary word and its definition.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. youthful | careless |
| 2. determined | young and energetic |
| 3. reckless | dedicated |
| 4. immature | childish |
| 5. stubborn | brave |
| 6. fearless | unwilling to change |

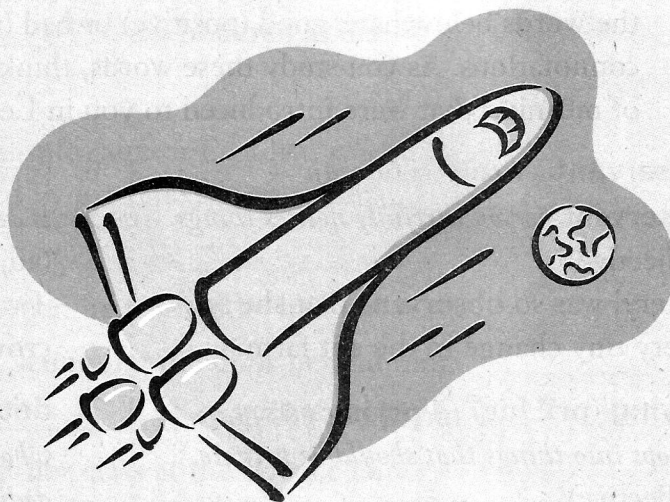
- B** All the boldfaced words in the passage below have either positive or negative connotations. Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

Dr. Sally Ride: Tennis Player, Astronaut, Professor

Dr. Sally Ride was the first American woman astronaut, but that was just one of her three career possibilities. One of her **youthful** interests was tennis. She played so well that tennis star Billy Jean King told her to become a professional. Instead, she decided to study physics at Stanford University. Sally was an excellent student, and was on her way to becoming a professor—until she learned that NASA was looking for astronauts.

NASA wanted intelligent astronauts who could also handle physical tasks. Another requirement was good judgment and the ability to follow orders. **Immature** or **stubborn** people can be dangerous on a space mission. NASA screened carefully, even asking questions that might be considered **prying**, but that were important in a life and death situation. In the end, Sally Ride was one of 35 people chosen out of more than 8,000 applicants.

Determined to excel, Ride trained in parachute jumping, water survival, and weightlessness. She was a **fearless** flyer who enjoyed being a pilot so much that it soon became her hobby. Ride became a radio communications specialist for the space mission. She



had to be **observant** in monitoring her equipment so that nothing could go wrong, for communication with earth was critical to space missions. But Sally did other things too. She even helped design a remote mechanical arm.

Sally Ride went into space twice, and was preparing to go again when the *Challenger* space craft exploded. Shocked, the public demanded an explanation to see if any **reckless** act had caused the accident. Ride was appointed by the president to help investigate the disaster. Later she worked in NASA's Office of Exploration.

Dr. Ride has now retired from NASA and is a professor at Stanford University. One of her goals is to help young girls become interested in science and mathematics.

Name _____

Date _____

WORD LIST

determined

fearless

immature

observant

prying

reckless

stubborn

youthful

1. Which of Sally Ride's youthful accomplishments hinted that she would succeed as an astronaut? Why do you think so?

2. What words tell you about Sally Ride's qualities as an astronaut?



List the words from the word list in the boxes in which they fit best.

<i>Good Connotations</i>	<i>Bad Connotations</i>



Choose the right word to fit into each sentence. Write the word on the line.

1. I try not to ask _____ questions about other people's personal lives. (*observant/prying*)
2. Molly is so _____ that she won't listen to reason. (*stubborn/determined*)
3. If I were going to learn rock climbing, I'd want a _____ instructor. (*reckless/fearless*)
4. Miguel's _____ enthusiasm about dinosaurs was refreshing to the professor. (*immature/youthful*)
5. It's _____ to try to feed bears in the wild. (*reckless/fearless*)

Name _____

Date _____

OTHER FORMS

determination

fearlessly

immaturely

observe

pry

recklessness

stubbornly

youthfulness



Complete each sentence with a phrase that makes sense. Note that some other forms of the vocabulary words are used.

1. I marched **fearlessly** into _____
_____.
2. It is important to be **observant** when _____
_____.
3. When someone behaves **immaturely**, _____
_____.
4. It's not nice to **pry** because _____
_____.
5. If you are **determined** to do something, _____
_____.

ENRICHMENT WORDS

Here are two more words that have good and bad meanings. Which is the "good" word?

1. **scholar** (skōl' ə) *A scholar is a learned person who has studied hard and gained a great deal of knowledge.* (noun)

The **scholar** of ancient languages was called in to read the newly discovered Hieroglyphic scroll.

2. **drudge** (drūj) *A drudge is one who works hard at doing boring and unpleasant work.* (noun)

If you don't enjoy the work you are doing, you will feel like a **drudge** at the end of the day.

OFF THE PAGE

Choose one of the word pairs from this lesson, for example, **determined** and **stubborn**. Use examples from books, movies, and real life that show how the connotation is different for each word. For example,

Cinderella was determined to go to the ball.

Cinderella's step-sisters stubbornly refused to let her go.

