**Positive and Negative Connotations**

**Connotation** is the feeling or emotion that a word evokes in addition to its literal meaning.

Words can have a positive connotation or a negative connotation.

examples: The **scent** of the candle (positive connotation)  
The **odor** of the candle (negative connotation)

**Denotation** is the literal definition of a word.

For each pair of sentences, write a “P” next to the sentence that has a positive connotation and write an “N” next to the sentence that has a negative connotation.

1. _____ Mr. Henderson is tight-fisted with his money. He is a penny-pincher.  
   _____ Mr. Henderson manages his money well. He keeps good records of his finances.

2. _____ Colleen makes lists for herself because she is forgetful and absentminded.  
   _____ Colleen likes to stay organized and on top of things by writing notes for herself.

3. _____ “It’s the first day of school today!” Ian said, bouncing up and down excitedly.  
   _____ “It’s the first day of school today,” Ian groaned, pulling the covers over his head.

4. _____ The politician was known for his aggressive personality and questionable ethics.  
   _____ The politician was characterized by his assertive demeanor and fair policies.

5. _____ The rain fell down on the landscape like a gentle, timid mist.  
   _____ The rain pounded the land in angry, violent torrents.

6. _____ Vicki’s cookies turned out charred and as hard as rocks.  
   _____ Vicki’s cookies came out chewy and perfectly baked.
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