

AULA 1
DENOTAÇÃO E CONOTAÇÃO
TEORIA

“Denotação” e “Conotação” referem-se, de forma geral, aos significados atribuídos às palavras e expressões empregadas na língua inglesa, sendo recursos essenciais para a adequada interpretação de textos.

1. DENOTAÇÃO

“**Denotation**” é o sentido literal exato de uma palavra (ou expressão), ou seja, aquele que está registrado no dicionário.

*The python is a popular pet **snake**.*

Na oração acima, a palavra “snake” foi utilizada no sentido em que está registrada no dicionário Oxford. Observe:

“A long limbless reptile which has no eyelids, a short tail, and jaws that are capable of considerable extension. Some snakes have a venomous bite”.

Portanto, a palavra “snake” foi empregada, no contexto em questão, em seu sentido **denotativo**.

2. CONOTAÇÃO

“**Connotation**” é o sentido secundário de uma palavra (ou expressão), a ideia ou o sentimento que aquela palavra evoca em nós quando é lida ou pronunciada.

*That man is a cold-blooded **snake**.*

Na oração acima, a palavra “snake” foi utilizada para evocar a ideia de uma pessoa traiçoeira ou desonesta.

Assim, a palavra “snake” foi empregada, no contexto em questão, em seu sentido **conotativo**.

3. EXEMPLOS

Agora, decida se as palavras sublinhadas nos fragmentos textuais reproduzidos logo abaixo foram empregadas no sentido “Denotativo” (D) ou “Conotativo” (C).

1. In the Wizard of Oz, Dorothy's home is in a small town in Kansas. ()
2. In the Wizard of Oz, Dorothy says, “There is no place like home!” ()
3. I walked quickly to keep warm. ()
4. They honor the guests with a warm welcome. ()
5. If the sun comes out, the snow will melt. ()
6. The chocolate seems to melt in my mouth. ()

EXERCÍCIOS

1. (ESPCEX 2017) In the sentence “the cellular network was not as **robust** as it is today”, the word “robust” means

The cellular network was still growing and was not as robust as it is today.

- a) capable of producing repeated failures in bad conditions.
- b) capable of performing without failure under a variety of conditions
- c) capable of predicting critical weather changes in other countries..
- d) capable of creating standard responses to technical problems.
- e) capable of manufacturing its own components in bad conditions.

2. (ESPCEX 2017) When Ms Lovén says: “my whole body **froze**”, she means
 - a) she was feeling cold and wanted to leave.
 - b) she needed help because she could not walk.
 - c) she felt unhappy and wanted to go home.
 - d) she didn't want Hope to find out she was there.
 - e) she became suddenly paralysed with shock.
3. (ESPCEX 2018) In the sentence “the author didn't fall into the trap of only including ‘perfect’ photos”, the expression “fall into the trap” means
 - a) make a mistake.
 - b) give instructions.
 - c) write clearly.
 - d) include extra lessons.
 - e) improve his abilities.
4. (ESPCEX 2019) In the sentence “But the difference between the regimes is far more than **skin-deep**”, the expression “skin-deep” means
 - a) protective.
 - b) extreme.
 - c) shocking.
 - d) profound.
 - e) superficial.
5. (ESPCEX 2019) In the sentence “while still others have been given a **grace period** of a few days”, the expression “grace period” means
 - a) tiebreak.
 - b) dead end.
 - c) extra time.
 - d) target.
 - e) timetable.