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|                                        | Secondary aims:  
|                                        | C3/12-1.0: Find the elements in denotation and in connotation  
|                                        | C3/12-1.1: explanations  
|                                        | C3/12-1.2: distinguish denotations/ connotations from a picture  
|                                        | C3/12-1.3: distinguish denotations/ connotations from a picture  
|                                        | C3/12-1.4: idem + explain the connotation  
|                                        | C3/12-1.5: find the connotative value of words  
|                                        | C3/12-1.6: find the connotations of one word depending on the people it is addressed to  
|                                        | C3/12-1.7: analyse the connotations in a poem  
|                                        | C3/12-1.8: analyse the connotations in a descriptive text  |
| Pre-requisites                         | Ability to read complex sentences in a text about a page long |
| Number of exercises                    | 7 |
| Summing-up exercise                    | C3/12-1.4 analyse connotations from pictures  
|                                        | C3/12-1.8 analyse connotations from words  |
| Comments                               | |
Everyone has a fairly precise idea of the meaning of the word « TRAIN ».

In the dictionary, you can find the following definition:
“Train: a locomotive and the carriages it pulls.”

**BUT**, for the driver of a train, the word TRAIN also represents **work**.

For someone who lives near a railway line, the word TRAIN evokes **noise**.

For someone in a station not taking the train, it can mean **the departure, the return or the absence of another person**.

Finally, for a family going to the seaside in August, the word TRAIN will make them think of **holidays**.

Work, noise, departure, return, absence or holidays are meanings that are added to the original meaning of the word TRAIN, the definition in the dictionary.

A **CONNOTATION** is what a word, a message or a picture evoke in addition to the original meaning.
In the sentences in this list, all the underlined words designate the same thing.

- What is your trade?
- What is your occupation?
- What is your profession?
- What function do you have?
- What sort of work do you do?
- What is your livelihood?
- What is your bread and butter?
- What job do you do?

All these words have the same DENOTATION: They designate work, the activity that a person does in order to earn his living.

But, to this common denotation different CONNOTATIONS are added: These are the impressions that the words used give.

So:
“livelihood”, “bread and butter” and “job” are familiar words.
“trade” evokes expertise, manual work.
“Profession” makes us think of non-manual work, like doctor, teacher, or bookseller, etc.
The word “function” evokes office work or a position of responsibility.
The word “occupation” is more administrative.
1- What are the connotations of the flowers in this picture?

Answer: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………
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2- Under each of these pictures, write:
1° what the picture represents
2° what it connotes for you

1° The picture represents:
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2° The picture connotes:
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1° The picture represents:
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2° The picture connotes:
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Look at the suggested answers for C3/12 – 1.2
1- What are the connotations of the flowers in this picture?

![Image of a car with flowers]

**Answer:**
*This picture connotes fresh air, the countryside, the fight against pollution, ecology, the protection of nature.*

2- Under each of these pictures, write:

1° what the picture represents  
2° what it connotes for you

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Picture 1</th>
<th>Picture 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Image of hands shaking]</td>
<td>![Image of a man holding a dog]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1° The picture represents:  
*It represents 2 hands. One is black, the other white.*

2° The picture connotes:  
*It denotes respect, friendship between peoples. It is an expression against racism.*

1° The picture represents:  
*It shows a man holding a dog in his arms.*

2° The picture connotes:  
*It connotes gentleness, affection between a man and his dog, friendship, tenderness, complicity.*
Next to each of these pictures, write:

1°) what the picture represents
2°) what it connotes for you

1°) ..........................................................
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2°) ..........................................................
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Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.3
Next to each of these pictures, write:

1°) what the picture represents
2°) what it connotes for you

1°) A desert landscape. We can see sand, and some trees with no leaves and cactus.
2°) The photo evokes drought, barrenness, hunger and thirst, heat, the desert, death, etc.

1°) A fire in the countryside.
2°) The fire could be accidental, but farmers sometimes burn their fields to enrich the soil. The picture also evokes forest fires: the destruction of whole forests, the death of animals that live there, possibly also the destruction of houses, etc.

1°) A landscape with wind turbines.
2°) The production of renewable, clean energy, environment protection, the end of nuclear energy, ecology, etc.
Look at this photograph:

The exercise continues on the next page
Keep the photo by you and answer the following questions:

1. Describe what this photo represents.

2. Say what it evokes:

3. Explain why:

4. What is the connotation of the sea and the beach where the horse and rider are galloping?

Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.4
1- Describe what this photo represents.

A man on a horse galloping on the beach.

2- Say what it evokes?

Freedom, adventure, a sensation of speed, well being, harmony between man and horse, holidays, love of nature, etc.

3- Explain why:

Freedom because they are alone and there is a lot of space around them. They seem to have no limits. Adventure because a horse gallops very fast and anything could happen in a moment. Well being because the horse and the rider seem to feel at ease and very familiar with each other. The rider is in the heart of nature and can enjoy it to the full. He is on horseback, can see and hear the sea, feel the wind and smell the sea.

4- What is the connotation of the sea and the beach where the horse and rider are galloping?

Freedom, peace, tranquillity, nature, open spaces.
Here is a list of words that parents can use to talk of their son.
Opposite each one, write what it connotes. Several answers are possible.

My boy

My little one

My darling

My little man

My son and heir

Son

Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.5
Here is a list of words that parents can use to talk of their son. Opposite each one, write what it connotes. Several answers are possible.

My boy
*Affection, tenderness, pride, ...*

My little one
*Tenderness, simplicity, protection, ...*

My darling
*Great affection, closeness, ...*

My little man
*Affection, familiarity, ...*

My son and heir
*Inheritance, wealth, material goods or sometimes characteristics that the child may have inherited.*

Son
*Affection, tenderness, pride, ...*
What can the sea evoke?

1- For a fisherman?

2- For a city dweller?

3- For a person who was born and brought up by the sea?

4- For a person who takes part in yacht races?

5- In this line by the poet Charles Baudelaire: “Free Man, you will always cherish the sea”

6- In the song by the French singer-songwriter Renaud: “It’s not man that conquers the sea, It’s the sea that conquers man.”

7- For you:

Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.6
What can the sea evoke?

1- For a fisherman?
   Work, the money he will earn, dangers, the memory of adventures he had while out at sea, etc.

2- For a city dweller?
   Holidays, a change of scene, etc.

3- For a person who was born and brought up by the sea?
   Their childhood, their family and friends, their memories, etc.

4- For a person who takes part in yacht races?
   Success, competition, adventure, etc.

5- In this line by the poet Charles Baudelaire: “Free Man, you will always cherish the sea”
   Freedom.

6- In the song by the French singer-songwriter Renaud:
   “It’s not man who conquers the sea, 
   It’s the sea that conquers man.”
   The dangers of the sea, the sailors’ departure, sometimes their death.

7- For you:
   (Show your work to the teacher)
What does the autumn connote in this poem by Verlaine?

The long sighs
Of the violins
Of autumn
Wound my heart
With a languorous
Monotony

All is still
And pale, when
Comes the time,
I remember
The days gone by
And I weep

And I go on my way
In the high wind
Which bears me
Hither and thither,
Like a dead
Leaf
What does the autumn connote in this poem by Verlaine?

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Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.7
What does the autumn connote in this poem by Verlaine?

- Sadness (*sighs, I weep*)
- Sickness (*still, pale*)
- Memories, nostalgia (*I remember the days gone by*)
- The passing of time, fate (*And I go on my way/ In the high wind/ Which bears me*)
- Death (*Like a dead leaf*)
Read this extract from Simenon’s novel: *Christmas with Maigret*

A thin shaft of pale, raw light showed between the curtains, which never closed completely. He waited a little longer, lying on his back, his eyes open. The smell of coffee reached him and, when he heard the front door open and close, he knew that Madame Maigret had hurried out to buy him some hot croissants.

He never ate breakfast, preferring just black coffee. But this was a ritual, his wife’s idea. On Sundays and holidays, he was supposed to lie in, and she would go and get the croissants from the corner of the rue Amelot.

He got out of bed, put on his slippers and dressing gown and opened the curtains. He knew that he shouldn’t, that she would be hurt. He would have been capable of great sacrifice to please her, but not to stay in bed when he really did not feel like it.

There was no snow. It was ridiculous, at over fifty years old, to still be disappointed that there was no snow on Christmas morning, but middle-aged people are never as serious as young people think.

The sky, heavy and low, an ugly white colour, seemed to weigh down on the rooftops.

He heard his wife busying herself in the kitchen again, tiptoeing about in the dining room, still taking care to make no noise, little doubting that he was already up and looking out of the window.
In this text, some sentences connote a particular atmosphere. What do the following sentences connote?

1- “a thin shaft of pale, raw light”

2- “he knew that Madame Maigret had hurried out to buy him some hot croissants”

3- “On Sundays and holidays, he was supposed to lie in, and she would go and get the croissants from the corner of the rue Amelot.”

4- “He got out of bed, put on his slippers and dressing gown”

5- “It was ridiculous, at over fifty years old, to still be disappointed that there was no snow on Christmas morning”

6- “The sky, heavy and low, an ugly white colour, seemed to weigh down on the rooftops.”

Look at the suggested answers for C3/12-1.8
In this text, some sentences connote a particular atmosphere. What do the following sentences connote?

1- “A thin shaft of pale, raw light”
   A weak, cold wintry light.

2- “He knew that Madame Maigret had hurried out to buy him some hot croissants”
   A long life as a couple, the knowledge of each other’s habits, intimacy.

3- “On Sundays and holidays, he was supposed to lie in, and she would go and get the croissants from the corner of the rue Amelot.”
   Tenderness, generosity, the habits a couple develops.

4- “He got out of bed, put on his slippers and dressing gown”
   A liking for comfort, the habits of the bourgeoisie.

5- “It was ridiculous, at over fifty years old, to still be disappointed that there was no snow on Christmas morning.”
   A yearning for the magic of childhood Christmases, nostalgia, a love of traditions.

6- “The sky, heavy and low, an ugly white colour, seemed to weigh down on the rooftops.”
   A feeling of heaviness, a winter sky heavy with rain or snow.