

Strategy 4

Use negation to define a word.

Negation tells what a word *does not* (only or necessarily) *mean*. Often, it is just a unique way to think about a word.

Common Phrases for Negation

_____ does not necessarily mean _____
(word) (fill in)
(Example: Quiet does not necessarily mean shy.)

_____ does not only mean _____
(word) (fill in)
(Example: Beautiful does not only mean physical attractiveness.)

_____ is not someone who just _____
(word)
(Example: An extrovert is not someone who just talks a lot.)

_____ is not something that just _____
(word)
(Example: A good job is not something that just pays a lot of money.)

Weak negation: Beautiful does not mean ugly. (This is obvious.)

Exercise 4

1. Fill in the blanks with the words from the box.
2. Double-underline the "Common Phrases for Negation" that were used.

___ evil	___ lose	<u>X</u> problems	___ over and over
___ money	___ physical suffering	___ look good	

1. In contrast to what many people think, "happiness" does not necessarily mean that a person is free of problems. A person can have problems, yet still be happy if they have a positive attitude.
2. "Pain" does not only mean _____. It can also be mental.
3. Many people don't appreciate good shoes. Good shoes are not something that just _____. They are like our best friends because they are with us many hours every day.
4. There is a common misunderstanding about the word "diet." A diet does not necessarily mean a routine that we follow in order to _____ weight. My brother was on a diet to gain weight when he joined the football team.
5. A wealthy person is not someone who just has a lot of _____. People who are truly wealthy feel as if they have everything that they want.

6. A bad leader is not someone who is just _____. A bad leader might be a good person who has weak leadership skills.
7. "A habit" does not necessarily mean something that we do _____. For example, we eat dinner every evening, but that doesn't mean that it is a habit.
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