

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Boring (interesting)	Lacking in interest as to cause mental weariness.	Boring, depressing, doze, drowsy, dry, dull, fell asleep, flat, humdrum, irksome, lethargic, mundane, soporific, tedious, uninteresting, yawn	instructor or material. Feelings and actions about the course.	What a dull teacher. The class is so boring, the lectures made students feel sleepy. On the plus side my insomnia is much better.
Difficult (easy)	Not easy. Requiring great mental or physical effort to accomplish, comprehend or endure.	Arduous, challenging, complex, complicated, cumbersome, daunting, difficult, hard, heavy intense, intricate, laborious, not absorb, onerous, perplexed, rambling, struggled, tough, unbearable	course, material, instructor, focused on difficult as a negative trait (does not include challenging items which are classified as ambiguous because in many cases challenging is a positive attribute.)	Exams were ridiculously tough, nobody did well on them. I had difficulties from the start in understanding the lecturer.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Disorganized (organized)	Lacking order or methodical arrangement or function.	all over the place, chaotic, cluttered, confused, contradictory, disarray, fumbled, illogical, incoherent, inconsistent, ill-prepared, messy, mishmash, muddle, scatterbrained	instructor's approach to teaching or explanation of the subject matter. student's inefficiency in completing the course.	The professor is a little scatterbrained, he was all over the place.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Disrespectful/Rude (funny/entertaining)	Exhibiting lack of respect. Rude and discourteous.	abrupt, abusive, authoritarian, asshole, bitch, bully, contempt, cynical, degrading, demean, derogatory, disdain, disrespectful, flippant, grumpy, humiliating, hurtful, impolite, inconsiderate, insulting, irreverent, is mean, mock, not polite, not nice, offending, patronizing, rude, sarcasm, snippy, turgid, vicious	personality of the instructor.	Dude is seriously grumpy. Needs a girlfriend or something.
Expensive	Useless or profitless activity. Using or expending or consuming thoughtlessly.	a lot of money, costly, expensive, overpriced, pricy, waste of money	instructor or material. outcomes or descriptions.	New revision of the textbook is way overpriced.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Inaccurate	Incorrect, wrong, providing false or misleading information.	Not accurate, inaccurate, not so accurate	material provided for the course or statements made by the instructor.	The syllabus was not always accurate. The online tasks were often not accurate.
Lacking_Knowledge (knowledgeable)	Lacking intellectual acuity.	amateur, dumb, idiotic, ignorant, ill-qualified, imbecile, incompetent, incapable, ineffective, inefficient, inept, inexperienced, nitwit, not able to teach, not bright, not capable, not qualified, not professional, not savvy, not smart, stupid, unable to answer, unskilled, unprofessional, unfit, unprofessionalism, unsuitable	instructor's approach to teaching or explanation of the subject matter.	The TA was kind of a nitwit. I knew more than she did.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Not_Engaging (engaging)	Unappealing or unattractive demotivating.	daft, dense, dim, disconnected, disengaged, does not stimulate, fail to engage, hardly lively, insipid, lacks excitement, lack of passion, lose interest, lost interest, not eager, no passion, not excited, not fun, not stimulating, no enthusiasm, sluggish, too slow, wearisome	instructor or material specifically with respect to presentation. outcomes or descriptions.	The teacher completely disconnected during his lectures and would drone on and on without any concern for the students.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Not Worthwhile (important/relevant)	Lacking in usefulness or value.	antiquated, complete waste, did not seem useful, garbage, hardly worth, inapplicable, inappropriate, insignificant, irrelevant, junk, laughable, ludicrous, a farce, nonsense, not applicable, not beneficial, not important, not relevant, not useful, not worth, obsolete, pointless, rubbish, trivial, unhelpful, unnecessary, useless, valueless, waste of time, worthless, zero relevance	the value of the course material, including lectures, reading or exams.	Total rubbish. I can't believe that was supposed to be a sophomore level course.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Poorly delivered (well_delivered)	Lacked proper skills to deliver engaging course material in an engaging manner.	Badly delivered, executed horribly, goes off on tangent, isn't good at teaching, too fast paced, yelling, too much memorization, parrot, endlessly regurgitating, rehashed, repetitive	the delivery style of the instructor.	Lectures were rushed. the poor delivery of the course content. Lectures just rehashed what was in the book.
Poor_Quality (high_quality)	Undesirable or negative in quality.	horrible, awful, awkward, dreadful, bullshit, horrible, poor, sucked, terrible	instructor or course.	The paper given as a reading assignment really sucked. It's from like 1972.
Stressful (enjoyable)	Extremely irritating to the nerves. Nerve-wracking.	burdensome, distressed, lots of pressure, much pressure, strain, stress, stressful, tension	course material, exams. reaction to the instructor pressuring students.	Exams were way stressful since they consisted of the entirety of our grade.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Superficial (comprehensive)	Concerned with or comprehending only what is apparent or obvious. Not deep or penetrating intellectually.	didn't learn a lot, lack of depth, lacked depth, not as detailed, not comprehensive, scratched the surface, superficial	a lack of depth of coverage of the material.	Seems like the course barely scratched the surface. I thought we would go more in depth with topics.
Too much or too little	An improper amount of time spent on topics throughout the course.	Excessive amount, insufficient amount, never good enough, overwhelm, so little, need more	the time allotted to a topic by the instructor.	The lack of class time spent on solving these types of problems made it a struggle to gain a solid grasp on information

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unapproachable (approachable)	Discouraging interaction or reserved.	aloof, chilly, detached, didn't care, distant, frigid, haughty, heartless, indifferent, intimidating, not easy to talk, overbearing, standoffish, stuck up, taciturn, too formal, unapproachable, unresponsive, unsympathetic	behavior of instructor. ability to access instructor.	What a heartless dude. He wouldn't budge an inch.
Unavailable (available)	Not available or accessible or nearby for consultation or access.	few hours available, inaccessible, never available, lack of assistance, not accessible, not available, no office hours, never at office hours, not easily reachable, unavailable, unreachable, zero assistance	behavior of instructor. ability to access instructor.	Never once saw him in his office during office hours.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unclear (clear)	Poorly stated or described. Not clear to the mind.	ambiguity, ambiguous, baffled, confusing, bewildered, blur, cryptic, enigmatic, vague, foggy, fuzzy, hazy, illegible, imprecise, in the dark, incomprehensible, inconsistent, lack of clarity, lost, muddy, not detailed, not explicit, obscure, opaque, puzzled, unclear, not well described	explanation of material. delivery of information or nature of material delivered by instructor.	His explanations were incomprehensible most of the time.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unfair (fair)	Not fair. Marked by injustice or partiality or deception.	arbitrary, bias, discriminated, unfair, dishonest, favoritism, hypocritical, inequity, injustice, is partial, lack of honesty, one-sided, partisan, played favorite, prejudice, showed favorites, tricky, unethical, unequal, unfair, unjust, unwarranted	the characteristics of the instructor. opinions about course material, exams, volume of work.	She's got something against guys and definitely played favorites.
Unhelpful/unsupportive (Helpful/supportive)	Assistance provided to solve a problem was not appropriate and did not improve the situation.	No help, irrelevant, not supportive, hardly helped, lack support	the ability of the instructor to respond to issues encountered by the students.	teachers aren't supportive enough to students like myself who work full time or in rural areas.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unpleasant/unsafe (Pleasant/safe)	Lacking kindness. Offensive or disagreeable. Causing discomfort or unhappiness.	abrasive, affront, aggressive, antagonism, arrogant, bad attitude, belittling, big ego, brutal, condescending, cruel, disagreeable, disgust, ego-driven, get over himself, harsh, hatred, horrid, hostile, impatient, judgmental, nasty, not nice, not caring, not kind, not friendly, obnoxious, offensive, outrageous, patronizing, pompous, presumptuous, pretentious, repulsive, rudely, shocking, sour, tasteless, threatening, too strict, unpleasant, verbal abuse, make me feel stupid	personality of instructor.	He's a repulsive, arrogant SOB. TA explains in a way that would make students feel stupid

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unresponsive	Does not respond to external stimuli.	Not prompt, didn't answer, fails to respond, no answer, rarely respond	the ability of the instructor to respond to students	Very disappointed in the lack of response regarding the TA and lack of the school addressing the issue of the TA
Unspecific unfavorable	Used to capture sentiments that are negative but do not have enough information to qualify for another teaching and learning attribute	Absurd, appalling, awkward, bad, disappointing, disliked, not nice, wasn't fantastic	attributes of the course or instructor	"It was absurd.", "Appalling bad and terrible, the worst ever.", "Depressing."

Teaching and Learning Dictionary - Negative Attributes Definitions

Neutral Attributes

A subcategory within the **Attributes - T&L** category, themes within are intended to identify feedback that is neither positive nor negative but is simply neutral. Only one theme is provided to capture neutral comments. It is expected that the majority of the comments will be more appropriately placed in a positive or negative theme.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Neutral	Not having any markedly negative or positive characteristics or features	cant improve, no complaints, keep as is, nothing to recommend, wouldn't change a thing	materials, instructor, resources	The class was fine, I have no complaints about it.

Teaching and Learning Dictionary - Neutral Attributes Definitions