

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Accurate (inaccurate)	Correct in details	Accurate, precise	instructor, materials, textbook	The syllabus was always accurate. The instructor gave clear, precise instruction.
Approachable (unapproachable)	Easy to meet or converse with.	approachable, easy to talk to, good-natured, is open to, open minded, relaxed	behavior of instructor and/or staff. ability to access instructor and/or staff.	The TA was easy to talk to. The instructor was approachable to ask questions.
Available (unavailable)	Not busy or otherwise committed. Ready to help.	accessible, always around, always available	behavior of instructor and/or staff. ability to access instructor and/or staff, easy access to classroom resources	She was always around and willing to help me out with any questions I had. The lecture notes were always available online to help doing assignments.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Clear (unclear)	Readily apparent. Free from doubt.	accurate, clear, exact, explicit, precise, straightforward	explanation of material, delivery of material by instructor. nature of material delivered by instructor. student's ability to intake material.	I found her lectures to be straightforward. The instructor's delivery of the lecture was clear
Comprehensive (superficial)	Including all or everything. Broad in scope.	complete, comprehensive, detailed, exhaustive, extensive, great depth, thorough	depth of coverage of material, lectures, exams, etc.	The course lectures were extremely detailed and provided great coverage of the topics. He delivered a very comprehensive overview of every aspect of a topic.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Dedicated	Devoted to a cause or purpose.	Committed, dedicated, devoted	personal characteristics of the instructor. student's personal feelings towards the course or instructor.	I found her a really attentive and a dedicated Lecturer. We learned from a very dedicated lecturer who knows what student must learn.
Easy (difficult)	Posing no difficulty. Requiring little effort.	easy, effortless, manageable, simple, smooth	nature of the material or course. can broadly refer to the entire course or more specific assignments, projects, etc.	The homework was pretty manageable. Even the final project was smooth going. The lecture slides were easy to follow
Engaging (not_engaging)	Attracting or appealing. Able to hold attention.	appealing, captivating, eloquent, communicative, enchanting, grabs your attention, keen, motivated, motivating	instructor or materials	When the teacher got really interested in a topic he gave some captivating lectures.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Enjoyable (stressful)	Affording satisfaction or pleasure.	agreeable, appreciate, delightful, enjoyed, entertained, entertaining, gratifying, a pleasure, impressive, pleasant, satisfied	instructor or materials.	I enjoyed having him as my teacher. Both of the lecturers made content fun and easy to understand.
Enthusiastic	Having or showing great excitement and interest.	ardent, committed, eager, enthusiastic, exuberant, fervor, passionate	personal characteristics of the instructor. student's personal feelings towards the course.	The teacher was so enthusiastic about some of the topics that I couldn't help but enjoy myself. The tutor was passionate about the course which was shown through her teaching style.

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Experienced	Having knowledge or skill in a particular field	Experienced, years of experience, real life experience	relates to the knowledge and comfort level the instructor has regarding the material being taught.	It was cool to have the guest speakers who are experienced in different topics. Lecturers were experienced professionals with an actual background in their specific fields.
Fair (unfair)	Free from favoritism or self-interest or bias or deception. Not excessive or extreme.	equitable, fair, good faith, impartial, integrity, is honest, objective, principled, unbiased	characteristics of the instructor. opinions about the course material, exams, volume of work, etc.	She always graded assignments with an impartial eye.
Funny/Entertaining (disrespectful/rude)	Agreeably diverting. Provoking laughter	amusing, cheerful, comical, entertaining, fun, hilarious, jokes, laughs, playful	the delivery style of the instructor or the course material.	She always had entertaining stories to tell. Humorous lecturer creates the happy atmosphere for every lecture

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Helpful/Supportive	Providing assistance or serving a useful function. Providing support.	accommodating, constructive, encouraging, assists, cooperative, facilitates, flexible, fosters, great assistance, help was always there, willing to help, helpful, patient, provides assistance, reinforces, supportive	characteristics of the instructor. opinions about the course material.	The instructor was encouraging throughout the term and always assisted me when I was having problems.
High_Quality (Poor_quality)	Superior performance	of a high caliber, good quality, quality of instruction was great/good	instructor or materials.	The textbook was pretty good quality and covered all the important topics.
Important (not worthwhile)	Of great significance or value.	crucial, essential, important, indispensable, important,	the value of the course material, including lectures, reading, exams, etc.	Reading the textbook was crucial if you wanted to have any chance of doing well on the exam.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Instructive/Informative	Serving to instruct or enlighten or inform. Increasing knowledge or dissipating ignorance.	added to my knowledge, educational, enlightening, informative, instructive, learned a lot	instructor or materials. outcomes of the course.	The lectures were informative. I learned a lot.
Interesting (boring)	Excite the curiosity of; engage the interest of. Be of importance or consequence.	absorbing, exciting, fascinating, interesting, inspiring, riveting, stimulating	instructor or materials. feelings and actions/outcomes.	The case studies were fascinating. They brought up some really intriguing concepts.
Knowledgeable (lacking_ knowledge)	Highly educated. Having extensive information or understanding. Thoroughly acquainted through study or experience.	accomplished, articulate, brilliant, bright, clever, competent, cultivated, experienced, expert, intelligent, professional, savvy, sharp, skilful, smart, specialist, well-versed, wise	instructor's ability to teach or knowledge of the subject.	The professor is a brilliant researcher in this subject.

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Organized (disorganized)	Methodical and efficient in arrangement or function.	concise, coordinated, good structure, methodical, orderly, organized, structured, systematic, well-structured	instructor's approach to teaching or explanation of the subject matter. the student's need to be efficient and organized.	The instructor was very methodical, he always worked from very simple concepts gradually building up to complex ones.
Pleasant/Safe (unpleasant)	Considerate and helpful nature. Agreeable.	adorable, affable, amiable, authentic, caring, considerate, cordial, courteous, friendly, genuine, jovial, good manners, easy going, kind, likeable, polite, sweet, well mannered	personality of instructor. not self or classmates.	The teacher was considerate to my needs when I was struggling in the middle of the term. I felt comfortable speaking up.



Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Professional	Competent or skillful	Professional, professionalism	instructor	this is the true and a professional way to teach students. The guest lecturer showed practical experience as a professional
Relevant	Having a bearing on or connection with the subject at issue.	Relevant, pertinent, applicable, germane	materials, course	Topics were not only interesting but also relevant to students.
Responsive	Readily reacting or replying to people or events.	answer my questions, quick to reply, happy to answer, open to questions, receptive, responds to emails, responsive, very prompt, very timely	behavior of instructor. actions of instructor. not behavior of classmates or self.	No matter how many questions I asked, the teacher was always happy to answer me.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Right amount	What was provided was the correct amount.	Did not overload, sufficient, good amount, no overload, not too little, not too much, not too many, reasonable amount	course work	The reading is always a reasonable amount
Well Delivered (Poorly delivered)	Expressed readily, clearly, effectively.	good at teaching, instructed well, made sense, taught well, well presented, well delivered	course material and delivery style of instructor.	The teacher's examples he used during his lectures really made sense to me. A lot of content to cover in a short time but delivered well
Worthwhile (not worthwhile)	Worth the effort.	beneficial, invaluable, rewarding, useful, valuable, worthwhile, worthy	course	Every minute of every class was packed with learning. I learned so much.

Themes	Definition	Example Keywords	Focus	Example Comment
Unspecific favorable	Used to capture sentiments that are positive but do not have enough information to qualify for another teaching and learning attribute	Awesome, adored, amazing, cool, appreciated, fantastic, outstanding	any	"AWESOME", "AMAZING", "BEST INSTRUCTOR EVE R!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!", "This instructor is absolutely amazing and deserves a raise."

Teaching and Learning Dictionary - Positive Attributes Definitions

## Negative Attributes

A subcategory within the **Attributes - T&L** category, themes within are intended to identify the less than appealing traits of a teacher or a course that were mentioned in individual student comments. There are 20 common themes identified as **Negative Attributes** in the Teaching and Learning Dictionary.