

## Worksheet 5: Examining evaluative language

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Evaluative language is language which ‘judges’. It reveals the opinion of the writer or the character who is talking. Evaluative language can range from weak to strong and is often contained in noun groups and verb groups, adjectival and adverbial phrases and clauses.

This worksheet has quotes from Ellis Ashmead-Barlett’s newspaper report about the Gallipoli landings. Find the evaluative words or phrases then reflect what they reveal and how strong they are. The first is completed for you as an example.

### Example

**Quote:** *‘It required splendid skill, organisation, and leadership to get the huge armada under way from Mudros Bay, on the south of Lemnos Island, in the Aegean Sea, without accident.’*

**Evaluative words or phrases:** 1) splendid, 2) huge armada, 3) without accident

**What do these words or phrase reveal about the writer’s opinion?** He thinks they have been very organised and done a good job to get the ships ready and moving.

**How weak or strong are the words or phrases?** 1) Very strong, 2) Strong, 3) Strong

### Quote 1

*‘Each boat was in charge of a midshipman, and was loaded with great rapidity. Absolute silence was preserved, and there was not a hitch.’*

**Evaluative words or phrases:**

**What do these words or phrases reveal about the writer’s opinion?**

**How weak or strong are the words or phrases?**

### Quote 2

*‘The moment the boats touched the beach the troops jumped ashore and doubled for cover, but the gallant boat crews had to pull in and out under the galling fire from hundreds of points.’*

**Evaluative words or phrases:**

**What do these words or phrase reveal about the writer’s opinion?**

**How weak or strong are the words or phrases?**

**Quote 3**

*'Our boats appeared almost as one on the beach, the seven torpedo-boat destroyers glided noiselessly inshore ...'*

Evaluative words or phrases:

What do these words or phrases reveal about the writer's opinion?

How weak or strong are the words or phrases?

**Quote 4**

*'The Australians rose to the occasion. Not waiting for orders, or for the boats to reach the beach, they sprang into the sea, and, forming a sort of rough line, rushed at the enemy's trenches.'*

Evaluative words or phrases:

What does this word or phrase reveal about the writer's opinion?

How weak or strong are the words or phrases?

**Quote 5**

*'Here was a tough proposition to tackle in the darkness, but those colonials, practical above all else, went about it in a practical way.'*

Evaluative words or phrases:

What does this word or phrase reveal about the writer's opinion?

How weak or strong are the words or phrases?

**Quote 6**

*'Then this race of athletes proceeded to scale the cliffs without responding to the enemy's fire. They lost some men, but did not worry.'*

Evaluative words or phrases:

What does this word or phrase reveal about the writer's opinion?

How weak or strong are the words or phrases?