

# Litotes

A litotes is a type of understatement. Understatement means intentionally using words that suggest a situation is less important than it actually is. Form litotes by negating the opposite of what you actually mean. The word litotes comes from a Greek word that means simple or plain. The following statements are all examples of litotes:

- It's only a little damp out.
- This pizza is not bad.
- You won't be sorry about this.



**DIRECTIONS:** Write a litotes in response to each question.

1. How did you sleep last night?

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2. What did you think of that book?

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3. How often do you travel?

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