

## Looking up words in the dictionary: demure

Example of a language activity to develop a feminist intelligence by MF (2019)

### Reading Dictionary Definitions, Note-taking

- Cambridge: <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/demure>
- Oxford: [https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american\\_english/demure](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american_english/demure)
- Collins: <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/demure>
- Merriam-Webster: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/demure>

### Discussion (= Analysis)

Consider the definitions, and discuss this question: why should those human traits be applied more or generally or simply to women? Do you think this term will be extended to men, so they can be included in this definition (a non-patriarchal more human rights kind of approach to human beings)? Do you think the term will simply become obsolete, for the world we have today would not have a gendered term like this? What are your analyses?

- **More (Optional)**

Interesting too to compare the evolution of the definition in each of those dictionaries through time

### Presentation of Analysis or Conclusions (Reporting your answers)

Hopefully, by now you will be well aware that discussing is not reaching a conclusion, but exploring ideas, listening to people, analyzing things yourself, in conversations jointly, without turning communication into a kind of war where someone needs to prevail and hurt other people... All of that!

You can talk about the activity to your classmates at Plenary in different ways:

- Describing the activity, with no personal opinion (remember to give your text a beginning, a development and an ending)
- Describing the activity, with your personal opinion in a closing/concluding statement.
- Presenting the activity and offering a more detailed personal opinion -- your analysis and conclusion.