

English III

Lesson: [April 9, 2020]

Learning Target(s):

- Students will evaluate how an author's word choices will contribute to the tone of a text.
- Students will identify the tone of a text.

TONE

VS

MOOD

Both the tone and the mood are elements that are used by authors in literary works. When you understand the tone and the mood of the text that you're reading, it's a lot easier for you to understand the purpose and the theme of it, as well as to appreciate the style and the work of the author.

MEANING

- The TONE is the feeling or the atmosphere that the author has set in his story.
- The tone depends on what the author himself feels towards the setting or the character, and what he wants us to feel.

TONE WORDS

- He was quite humorous, and I liked that about him.
- The prisoners who escaped are violent and dangerous.
- She got what she wanted by dint of pleading and threatening.
- He was very cautious about committing himself to anything.

MEANING

- The MOOD is the feeling or the atmosphere that the reader gets when he is reading the story.
- The mood depends on what the reader feels.

MOOD WORDS

- I am hopeful that she will come tomorrow.
- He couldn't get to sleep because he was too excited.
- Small children are often very trustful.
- He had three pretty, vivacious daughters.

Bell Ringer

After looking at this [graphic organizer](#) and understanding the difference between mood and tone, pick a song and place it in the TITLE section. Then, using different adjectives, fill in the MOOD and TONE sections to help gain a better understanding of how the two concepts are related.



To sum up, you can understand the tone of a text when you look at the words that the writer has used. On the other hand, the mood that a text creates has to do with what you as a reader feel when you read what the author has written.

Learn

- Open the link below to learn about what tone is and how word choice has a direct impact on tone in writing. This link provides excellent examples of simple uses of tone, as well as more sophisticated examples for actual literary pieces.

[Definition of Tone and Examples](#)

- This video gives you an interesting insight into how just changing a few words in a passage from Jack Kerouac's, On the Road, can completely alter the tone of the piece. By the way, this is a great book if you have the opportunity to check it out.

Video: [Word Choice and Tone in Literature](#)

Practice

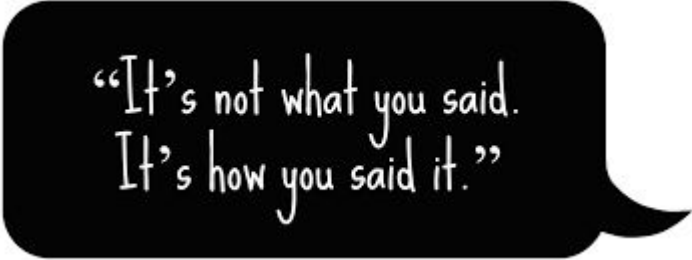
- Use the following exercise to gain a better understanding of how word choice impacts the tone of a sentence, paragraph, or story.

Determining Tone with Word Choice

Practice Answer Key

The answers will vary based on the reader's word choice, but the correct answer to the tone of the passage is included in all ten practice exercises.

[Determining Tone: Answer Key](#)



“It’s not what you said.
It’s how you said it.”

If you want to learn more...Additional Resource:

- Read the following short poem and focus on the purposeful word choice and how it is anchored in specific content and helps to establish tone.

["Wet and Crying"](#)

- Draw a chart like the one in the document and respond using word choice, feelings, and tone from the poem. A list of tone words is hyperlinked for you to use.

[Word Choice and Tone Chart](#)

[Tone Vocabulary List](#)