

Tone

The tone of a literary work refers to the **attitude** and **feelings** of the writer toward a subject and characters. Below is a list of possible terms you may use to describe the tone of any given text.

Positive		Neutral	Negative	
amused	hopeful	commanding	agitated	hostile
admiring	humorous	direct	ambivalent	impatient
adoring	introspective	impartial	angry	indifferent
affectionate	jovial	indirect	annoyed	insecure
appreciative	nostalgic	objective	antagonistic	manipulative
approving	optimistic	questioning	anxious	melancholic
calm	passionate	speculative	apathetic	mischievous
casual	playful	unambiguous	apprehensive	mocking
celebratory	proud	unconcerned	belligerent	mournful
comforting	reassuring	understated	bitter	nervous
comic	reflective		blunt	ominous
compassionate	relaxed		cold	outraged
complimentary	respectful		conceited	paranoid
confident	romantic		condescending	patronizing
contented	scholarly		confused	pensive
delightful	self-assured		critical	pessimistic
ecstatic	sentimental		cynical	pretentious
elated	serene		demanding	psychotic
empathetic	silly		derogatory	sarcastic
encouraging	straightforward		desperate	scornful
excited	sympathetic		detached	selfish
exhilarated	tranquil		disappointed	serious
gleeful			disgusted	sinister
			disrespectful	skeptical
			doubtful	sly
			embarrassed	snooty
			enraged	solemn
			fearful	stern
			frantic	suspicious
			frightened	tense
			frustrated	threatening
			furious	uncertain
			grave	uneasy
			greedy	unfriendly
			grim	unsympathetic
			harsh	upset
			hateful	violent
			holier-than-thou	
			hopeless	

Mood

The mood of a literary work refers to the **feeling** the reader experiences when reading the work. Below is a list of possible terms you may use to describe the mood of any given text.

Positive		Negative	
amused	loving	aggravated	intimidated
calm	mellow	annoyed	irritated
cheerful	nostalgic	anxious	jealous
confident	optimistic	apathetic	lethargic
content	passionate	apprehensive	lonely
determined	peaceful	barren	melancholic
dignified	playful	brooding	merciless
dreamy	pleased	cold	moody
ecstatic	refreshed	confining	mournful
empowered	rejuvenated	confused	nauseated
energetic	relaxed	cranky	nervous
enlightened	relieved	crushed	nightmarish
excited	romantic	cynical	numb
exhilarated	satisfied	depressed	overwhelmed
fanciful	sentimental	disappointed	painful
giddy	silly	distressed	pensive
grateful	surprised	drained	pessimistic
harmonious	sympathetic	dreary	rejected
hopeful	thankful	embarrassed	restless
hyper	thoughtful	enraged	scared
idealistic	tranquil	envious	serious
joyous	warm	exhausted	sick
liberating	welcoming	foreboding	somber
light-hearted		frustrated	sorrowful
		gloomy	stressed
		grumpy	suspenseful
		haunting	tense
		heartbroken	terrifying
		hopeless	threatening
		hostile	uncomfortable
		indifferent	vengeful
		infuriated	violent
			worried