

# Mood and Tone





- ❧ Tone and mood are literary elements integrated into literary works but can also be included into any piece of writing.
- ❧ Identifying the tone and mood in literature is very important to truly understanding what an author is trying to say and can be helpful in helping to discern the theme and author's style. Students often mix up the two terms and can become confused.

# TONE



**Tone** is the AUTHOR'S attitude towards the audience, the subject, or the character.

\*Tone is shown through

☞ Dialogue - talking

☞ Descriptions - author's diction [word choice]

# Words that describe TONE

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- Amused
- Angry
- Cheerful
- Critical
- Clear
- Formal
- Gloomy
- Humorous
- Informal
- Ironic
- Light
- Matter-of-fact
- Mocking
- Resigned
- Optimistic
- Pessimistic
- Playful
- Pompous
- Sad
- Serious
- Sincere
- Suspicious
- Quizzical
- Witty

# MOOD “Is yoo”



\*Mood is the feeling the reader gets from a story.

\*Mood is shown through

☞ Setting

☞ Atmosphere

# Words to describe MOOD

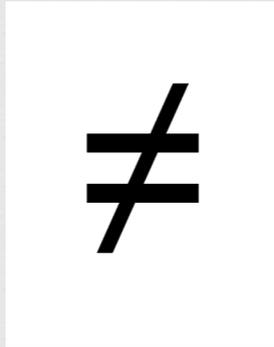
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- ☞ Light-hearted
- ☞ Playful
- ☞ Tender
- ☞ Warm
- ☞ Hopeful
- ☞ Peaceful
- ☞ Idyllic
- ☞ Joyous
- ☞ Inclusive
- ☞ Welcoming
- ☞ Liberating
- ☞ Tense
- ☞ Gloomy
- ☞ Violent
- ☞ Pessimistic
- ☞ Cold
- ☞ Confining
- ☞ Haunting
- ☞ Suspenseful
- ☞ Foreboding
- ☞ Painful
- ☞ Threatening
- ☞ Terrifying
- ☞ Lonely

# TONE IS NOT MOOD



Tone



Mood

The tone could be serious but the mood could be ridiculous.

# TONE IS NOT MOOD



FOR EXAMPLE:

He approached the task with sheer determination. He had studied his plans carefully, spent hours preparing and was sure of his approach. The hours he spent practicing were grueling and exhausting but he was ready. This was the year he would win the pie eating contest at school.

# TONE



FOR EXAMPLE:

He approached the task with **sheer determination**. He had studied his plans **carefully**, spent hours **preparing** and was sure of his approach. The hours he spent **practicing** were **grueling** and **exhausting** but he was **ready**. This was the year he would win the pie eating contest at school.

According to the author's descriptions, what is the tone?

**Serious, Intense, Formal, Focused**

# MOOD



FOR EXAMPLE:

He approached the task with sheer determination. He had studied his plans carefully, spent hours preparing and was sure of his approach. The hours he spent practicing were grueling and exhausting but he was ready. This was the year he would win **the pie eating contest at school.**

According to the setting, what is the mood?

**Playful, informal, silly, exciting**

# You Try!



On the following slides identify the author's tone or the reader's mood and explain how you knew.

Remember:

**Tone** is determined by

DESCRIPTION or DIALOGUE

**Mood** is determined by

SETTING or ATMOSPHERE

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_  
The author's \_\_\_\_\_ relays the tone.



**My annoying brother likes to drive me crazy.  
There is no other who is that lazy.  
He whines to Mom and Dad night and day  
Until he eventually gets his way.  
What is a sister to do  
When he screams 'til he's blue?  
There is no way to win,  
For he gets under your skin.  
He does his best to kill all joy.  
Oh, how my brother does annoy!**

The **TONE** of the passage is **FRUSTRATED**  
The author's **DESCRIPTIONS** relay the tone.



My **annoying** brother likes to **drive me crazy**.  
There is no other who is that **lazy**.  
**He whines** to Mom and Dad night and day  
Until he eventually gets his way.  
What is a sister to do  
When **he screams 'til he's blue**?  
There is no way to win,  
For he gets **under your skin**.  
He does his best to **kill all joy**.  
Oh, how my brother does **annoy**!

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_  
The author's \_\_\_\_\_ relays the tone.



**There is no one  
That can be better  
Because you are brilliant.  
There is nothing  
That you cannot you do  
Because you are unbeatable.  
There is no place  
That you cannot go  
Because you are always welcomed.  
There is no person  
That can hold you back  
Because you are unstoppable**

The **TONE** of the passage is **INSPIRING**  
The author's **DESCRIPTIONS** relay the tone.



**There is no one  
That can be better  
Because you are brilliant.**

**There is nothing  
That you cannot you do  
Because you are unbeatable.**

**There is no place  
That you cannot go  
Because you are always welcomed.**

**There is no person  
That can hold you back  
Because you are unstoppable**

The **MOOD** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the MOOD.



The door swings open to reveal all of my family members standing around the Christmas tree. The lights are twinkling and the fireplace is roaring with a warm fire. Everyone is singing Christmas carols as the snow falls quietly outside the window.

The **MOOD** of the passage is  
**COZY/FAMILIAR**

The **ATMOSPHERE** relays the tone.

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**The door swings open to reveal all of my family members standing around the Christmas tree. The lights are twinkling and the fireplace is roaring with a warm fire. Everyone is singing Christmas carols as the snow falls quietly outside the window.**

The **MOOD** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the MOOD.



**The door swings open to reveal a Christmas tree, alone in the middle of the room, sparkling with hundreds of lights. Silence greets me as I glance around the room. The fireplace is empty and the snow storm howls outside the window. My family has gone and I am left alone with my thoughts.**

The **MOOD** of the passage is

**GLOOMY/LONELY**

The **ATMOSPHERE** relays the MOOD.

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**The door swings open to reveal a Christmas tree, alone in the middle of the room, sparkling with hundreds of lights. Silence greets me as I glance around the room. The fireplace is empty and the snow storm howls outside the window. My family has gone and I am left alone with my thoughts.**

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The author's \_\_\_\_\_ relay the tone.



**We're contacting you today to let you know about the Special Olympics annual fund drive. You have been kind enough to support us generously in the past, and we'd like to ask for your help again, as we send our athletes with special needs to compete at the national level. Please fill out the form below and return it in the enclosed envelope with your donation. It will make a child's day if you do.**

The **TONE** of the passage is **FORMAL/POLITE**.  
The author's **DESCRIPTIONS** relay the tone.



We're **contacting you today** to let you know about the **Special Olympics annual fund drive**. You've been **kind** enough to **support** us **generously** in the past, and we'd like to ask for your help again, as we send our athletes with special needs to compete at the national level. **Please** fill out the form below and return it in the enclosed envelope with your donation. It will make a child's day if you do.

The **MOOD** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the MOOD.



**The gym of the high school was brightly decorated. The red and white streamers covered the walls and heart shapes were scattered all over the floor. Red glitter was thrown on all the tables and love songs were playing in the background. The Valentine's dance was about to begin.**

The **MOOD** of the passage is **ROMANTIC**  
The **SETTING** relays the **MOOD**.



**The gym of the high school was brightly decorated. The red and white streamers covered the walls and heart shapes were scattered all over the floor. Red glitter was thrown on all the tables and love songs were playing in the background. The Valentine's dance was about to begin.**

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The author's \_\_\_\_\_ relay the tone.



**We received your request for a refund for your recent purchase of a telescope for your son. Please accept our sincere apologies that the product did not function as advertised. We will process the refund in as timely a manner as possible. In the meantime, if we can help you in any other way, please ask.**

The **TONE** of the passage is  
**APOLOGETIC/PROFESSIONAL**  
The author's **DESCRIPTIONS** relay the tone.

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We received your request for a refund for your recent purchase of a telescope for your son. Please accept our sincere apologies that the product did not function as advertised. We will process the refund in as timely a manner as possible. In the meantime, if we can help you in any other way, please ask.

The **MOOD** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the **MOOD**.



**The night it happened was one we will never forget. The wind was screeching outside as rain pounded against the window. We had lost electricity hours ago and had nothing but candles to light the house. The battery powered radio we had was broadcasting a warning to lock your doors and stay inside; there was a killer on the loose.**

The MOOD of the passage is **SCARY/SUSPENSEFUL**  
The **ATMOSPHERE/SETTING** relays the MOOD.



**The night it happened was one we will never forget. The wind was screeching outside as rain pounded against the window. We had lost electricity hours ago and had nothing but candles to light the house. The battery powered radio we had was broadcasting a warning to lock your doors and stay inside; there was a killer on the loose.**

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_  
The author's \_\_\_\_\_ relay the tone.



**Lola sat on the old, lumpy couch crying. She could let it all out here, alone in her mother's small, quiet apartment in Galesburg, Illinois. The familiar walls were covered in rose pink wallpaper. Goldie, her mother's eleventh fish, seemed to stare sympathetically at Lola through the fishbowl sitting on the counter. The smell of her mother's vanilla candles comforted her aching heart.**

The **TONE** of the passage is **SAD/HEART BROKEN**  
The author's **DESCRIPTIONS** relay the tone.



Lola sat on the **old, lumpy couch crying**. She could let it all out here, alone in her mother's small, quiet apartment in Galesburg, Illinois. The familiar walls were covered in rose pink wallpaper. Goldie, her mother's eleventh fish, **seemed to stare sympathetically** at Lola through the fishbowl sitting on the counter. The smell of her mother's vanilla candles **comforted her aching heart**.

The **MOOD** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the mood.



**Lola sat on the old, lumpy couch crying. She could let it all out here, alone in her mother's small, quiet apartment in Galesburg, Illinois. The familiar walls were covered in rose pink wallpaper. Goldie, her mother's eleventh fish, seemed to stare sympathetically at Lola through the fishbowl sitting on the counter. The smell of her mother's vanilla candles comforted her aching heart.**

The **MOOD** of the passage is **COMFORTING**.  
The **SETTING** relays the mood.



Lola sat on the old, lumpy couch crying. She could let it all out here, alone in **her mother's small, quiet apartment in Galesburg, Illinois**. The **familiar walls were covered in rose pink wallpaper**. Goldie, her mother's eleventh fish, seemed to stare sympathetically at Lola through the fishbowl sitting on the counter. **The smell of her mother's vanilla candles comforted her aching heart.**

The **TONE** of the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ relays the **TONE**.



**“Would you be so kind as to help me with my groceries?” asked the elderly woman.**

**“Not a problem ma’am,” replied the young man, “I would be happy to help.”**

The **TONE** of the passage is **POLITE**.  
The **DIALOGUE** relays the TONE.



“Would you be **so kind** as to **help me** with my groceries?” asked the elderly woman.

“**Not a problem ma’am,**” replied the young man, “**I would be happy to help.**”