

# TONE

## Language to describe tone

Positive tone/attitude: *lighthearted, hopeful, exuberant, enthusiastic, complimentary, confident, cheery, optimistic, loving, passionate, amused, elated, sympathetic, compassionate, proud*

Negative tone/attitude: *angry, disgusted, outraged, accusing, condemnatory, furious, wrathful, inflammatory, irritated, indignant, threatening*

Irony/Sarcasm: *scornful, disdainful, contemptuous, sarcastic, cynical, critical, facetious, patronizing, satiric, condescending, sardonic, mock-heroic, bantering, irreverent, mock-serious, taunting, insolent, pompous, ironic, flippant, grotesque*

Sorrow/Fear/Worry: *somber, elegiac, melancholic, sad, disturbed, mournful, solemn, serious, apprehensive, concerned, hopeless, staid, resigned*

Neutral tone/attitude words: *formal, objective, incredulous, nostalgic, ceremonial, candid, shocked, reminiscent, restrained, clinical, baffled, sentimental, detached, objective, disbelieving, questioning, urgent, instructive, matter-of-fact, admonitory, learned, factual, didactic, informative, authoritative*

## Developing a Tone Vocabulary

## Another list of *tone* words:

angry	sad	sentimental	satiric	pedantic	colloquial
sharp	cold	fanciful	whimsical	indignant	compassionate
upset	urgent	complimentary	dramatic	bantering	impartial
silly	joking	condescending	learned	flippant	insipid
boring	poignant	sympathetic	informative	condescending	pretentious
afraid	detached	contemptuous	somber	patronizing	vibrant
happy	confused	apologetic	urgent	facetious	irreverent
hollow	childish	humorous	confident	clinical	sentimental
joyful	peaceful	horrific	mock-heroic	mock-serious	moralistic
allusive	mocking	sarcastic	objective	inflammatory	complimentary
sweet	objective	nostalgic	diffident	benevolent	contemptuous
vexed	vibrant	zealous	ironic	burlesque	sympathetic
tired	frivolous	irreverent	petty	detached	taunting
bitter	audacious	benevolent	factual	cynical	angry
dreamy	shocking	seductive	restrained	incisive	turgid
restrained	somber	candid	elegiac	allusive	sardonic
proud	giddy	pitiful	disdainful	scornful	contentious
dramatic	provocative	didactic	lugubrious	effusive	insolent
			candid	fanciful	concerned