

A vibrant, fantastical landscape with a large, gnarled tree trunk in the foreground, a volcano in the background, and a body of water with islands.

LQ: How can
you sustain a
tone throughout
a piece of
writing?

Today's Key Word: Tone

Definition: an attitude of a writer toward a subject or an audience

How to use in today's lesson: Consider how you might establish and sustain **tone** within your writing



Retrieval Questions:

1. What does 'mood' mean?
1. Provide one technique used to establish a positive mood in writing.
1. **Challenge:** Provide one technique used to establish a negative mood in writing.



It's not what you say but how you say it.

Tone refers to the way in which you say something to achieve a specific effect for readers.

Some different examples of tone may include:

- Scared
- Anxious
- Excited
- Worried
- Foolish
- Smart
- Depressing

It is important for your choice in tone to connect to the mood of your story.

What tone is established in these famous pieces of literature?

Charlotte's Web: "But I feel peaceful. Your success in the ring this morning was, to a small degree, my success. Your future is assured. You will live, secure and safe, Wilbur. Nothing can harm you now. These autumn days will shorten and grow cold. The leaves will shake loose from the trees and fall. Christmas will come, and the snows of winter. You will live to enjoy the beauty of the frozen world, for you mean a great deal to Zuckerman and he will not harm you, ever. Winter will pass, the days will lengthen, the ice will melt in the pasture pond. The song sparrow will return and sing, the frogs will awake, the warm wind will blow again. All these sights and sounds and smells will be yours to enjoy, Wilbur-this lovely world, these precious days..."

What tone is established in these famous pieces of literature?

A clean, well-lighted place: "It was very late and everyone had left the cafe except an old man who sat in the shadow the leaves of the tree made against the electric light. In the day time the street was dusty, but at night the dew settled the dust and the old man liked to sit late because he was deaf and now at night it was quiet and he felt the difference."

What tone is established in these famous pieces of literature?

The School: And the trees all died. They were orange trees. I don't know why they died, they just died. Something wrong with the soil possibly or maybe the stuff we got from the nursery wasn't the best. We complained about it. So we've got thirty kids there, each kid had his or her own little tree to plant and we've got these thirty dead trees. All these kids looking at these little brown sticks, it was depressing.

Word choice is very important

To create and sustain a tone, you need to consider the words that you use in your writing as they can help to convey the tone you are hoping to achieve.

What words within this extract convey a mysterious tone:

There was a steaming mist in all the hollows, and it had roamed in its forlornness up the hill, like an evil spirit, seeking rest and finding none. A clammy and intensely cold mist, it made its slow way through the air in ripples that visibly followed and overspread one another, as the waves of an unwholesome sea might do. It was dense enough to shut out everything from the light of the coach-lamps but these its own workings, and a few yards of road; and the reek of the labouring horses steamed into it, as if they had made it all.

Using this image and a Thesaurus:

Make a list of different words that help to convey a tone that you think best suits the image.

You need to justify the vocabulary that you have chosen once complete.

Challenge: Use the vocabulary to write a descriptive paragraph.

