

1. Which tone is represented in the following passage?

**As that hurricane *threatened*, the wind's *blast* caused *angry* fifteen-foot waves to *crash* over the small houses near the shore.**

- A. calm
- B. annoyed
- C. scary
- D. excited

Answer on back

### Examples of different tones for the word SHORT

- Little
- Undersized
- Petite
- Dwarfish
- Puny
- Scrubby
- Dinky

Answer:

1. C. Scary

Explanation: The words threatened, blast, angry, and crash all have a scary tone.

#### Reference Acknowledgement

Information for this brochure was adapted from the following source:

**Quick, Teri, Melissa Zimmer, and Diane Hocevar. *Making Reading Relevant: The Art of Connecting*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007. Print.**

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## Identifying the Author's Tone

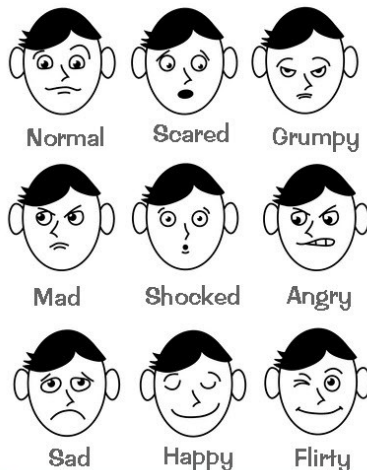


Created by The Write Spot Writing Team



## Understanding Tone

- The **tone** is the attitude of the author toward the subject and characters of a story.
- Tone is important in determining the author's purpose of the story.
- Tone is not explained or expressed directly, but through word choices.
- When looking for tone, think of how you understand the tone of a speaker's voice—happy, sad, angry, etc.
- Look at the word choices, types of sentences, and author's descriptions to find emotion and tone.
- Tone is NOT an action; it's an attitude!



## Examples of Tone

- Happy
- Sad
- Formal
- Informal
- Serious
- Angry
- Funny
- Excited
- Sympathetic
- Sarcastic

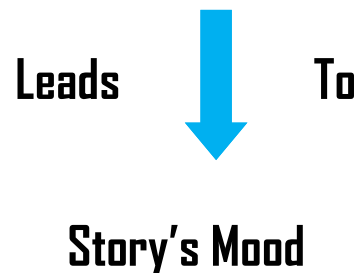
A reader must

**”read between the lines”**

to feel the author's attitude and identify the tone.



## An Author's Tone



## Tips

- Pay attention to choices of words
- Look at imagery
- Study details
- Listen to language