

Understand Mood and Tone

Reading & Literary Analysis Worksheet

Part 1: What Are Mood and Tone?

Mood: the **feeling or emotional atmosphere that a reader experiences** while reading a text.

Examples of mood:

- Happy
- Sad
- Nervous
- Mysterious
- Peaceful
- Frightening
- Exciting
- Lonely
- Hopeful
- Angry

Tone: the **author's or narrator's attitude toward the subject, characters, or situation.**

Examples of tone:

- Serious
- Humorous
- Sarcastic
- Angry
- Respectful
- Critical
- Excited
- Optimistic
- Pessimistic
- Sympathetic

Remember: **Mood = How the reader feels. Tone = How the author or narrator feels.**

Part 2: Multiple Choice

1. What is mood?

- A. The author's attitude toward a subject
- B. The feeling created in the reader
- C. The main character's personality
- D. The setting of a story

2. What is tone?

- A. The author's or narrator's attitude
- B. The reader's emotional response
- C. The sequence of events
- D. The story's conflict

3. Which word best describes a mood?

- A. Sarcastic
- B. Critical
- C. Peaceful
- D. Disapproving

4. Which word best describes a tone?

- A. Frightening
- B. Lonely
- C. Exciting
- D. Humorous

5. Which statement correctly explains the difference between mood and tone?

- A. Mood and tone always mean exactly the same thing.
- B. Mood describes the author, while tone describes the reader.
- C. Mood describes the reader's feelings, while tone describes the author's attitude.
- D. Tone describes the setting, while mood describes the characters.

6. Which of the following can an author use to create mood and tone?

- A. Word choice
- B. Imagery
- C. Details and descriptions
- D. All of the above

7. Read the sentence:

The children skipped happily through the sunny meadow while birds sang in the trees.

What is the most likely mood?

- A. Terrifying
- B. Peaceful and cheerful
- C. Angry
- D. Mysterious

8. Read the sentence:

The abandoned house groaned in the wind, while dark clouds covered the moon.

What is the most likely mood?

- A. Joyful
- B. Peaceful
- C. Frightening and mysterious
- D. Humorous

9. Read the sentence:

The principal proudly announced that the students had achieved the highest test scores in the school's history.

What is the most likely tone?

- A. Proud and positive
- B. Angry
- C. Sarcastic
- D. Fearful

10. Which sentence has a sarcastic tone?

- A. What a beautiful day to spend outside!
 - B. Wow, another homework assignment. Exactly what I needed.
 - C. The sun was shining brightly over the field.
 - D. Please remember to bring your homework tomorrow.
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Part 3: Identify the Mood

Directions: Read each passage. Choose the mood that the passage creates for the reader.

- 11.** The soft waves gently rolled onto the shore. A cool breeze moved through the palm trees as the sun slowly disappeared below the horizon.
- A. Peaceful
 - B. Frightening
 - C. Angry
 - D. Nervous
- 12.** Jake heard footsteps behind him. He turned around, but no one was there. The footsteps continued to get closer.
- A. Cheerful
 - B. Peaceful
 - C. Suspenseful
 - D. Humorous
- 13.** The team gathered around their coach, cheering and laughing after winning the championship. Confetti fell from the ceiling as the crowd shouted their names.
- A. Excited and joyful
 - B. Lonely
 - C. Frightening
 - D. Gloomy
- 14.** Emma sat alone at the empty bus stop. Rain poured down around her, and she stared silently at the photograph in her hands.
- A. Excited
 - B. Lonely and sad
 - C. Humorous
 - D. Energetic
- 15.** The students waited silently outside the principal's office. No one knew why they had been called in, and every few seconds someone nervously glanced at the closed door.
- A. Nervous and anxious
 - B. Peaceful
 - C. Joyful
 - D. Relaxed
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Part 4: Identify the Tone

Directions: Read each passage. Identify the author's or narrator's tone.

- 16.** The town's new park is absolutely wonderful. The walking trails are beautiful, the playground is safe, and families finally have a place where they can spend time together.

Tone: _____

- 17.** Apparently, arriving thirty minutes late is now considered a perfectly acceptable way to attend a meeting.

Tone: _____

18. The evidence clearly demonstrates that the policy has caused serious problems for the community and should be reconsidered.

Tone: _____

19. Marcus carefully explained that he understood how difficult the situation was and offered to help his friend through the problem.

Tone: _____

20. Despite the difficult circumstances, the community continued working together and remained confident that things would improve.

Tone: _____

Part 5: Mood or Tone?

Directions: Decide whether each statement describes **MOOD** or **TONE**.

21. The reader feels nervous while reading the scene.

Answer: _____

22. The author seems critical of the government's decision.

Answer: _____

23. The passage makes the reader feel hopeful.

Answer: _____

24. The narrator speaks about the situation in a humorous way.

Answer: _____

25. The reader feels a sense of loneliness.

Answer: _____

26. The writer's attitude toward the character is sympathetic.

Answer: _____
