

Tone = Author's Attitude

Use this list to help you identify “**tone of voice**” of the speaker (the emotions we can hear in a speaker's voice in that moment when he/she is speaking), but also the overall **tone** (the author's attitude about the about the society, topics, events, and people he/she is writing about).

<p>Angry Enraged Furious Fuming Incensed Outraged Wrathful</p> <p>Disgust (n) Offended Revulsion (n)</p>	<p>Stubborn Dogmatic Obstinate Uncompromising Unyielding</p> <p>Bossy Demanding Overbearing Presumptuous Pushy</p>	<p>Sarcastic Facetious Flippant Ironic Satiric</p> <p>Irritated, Dissatisfied Annoyed Disgruntled Grumpy Irate</p>	<p>Illogical, Childish Petty Petulant Sullen Sulking Surly</p> <p>Complaining Shrewish Ungrateful Whiny</p>	<p>Impatient Bored Curt Sharp Terse</p> <p>Impulsive Capricious Foolish Frivolous Impetuous Reckless</p>	<p>Boastful, Over-confident Bragging Cocky Smug</p> <p>Exaggerated Bombastic Grandiose Melodramatic</p>	<p>Conceited Egotistical Entitlement (n) Narcissistic Pompous Self-centered Vain</p> <p>Greedy Opportunistic Selfish Stingy</p>
<p>Manipulative, Insincere, Hypocritical Conniving Coy Cunning Deceptive Disingenuous Fake Forced Ingratiating Sugary Sly Wheedling</p>	<p>Confrontational Aggressive Antagonistic Argumentative Belligerent Combative Contentious Divisive Hostile</p> <p>Foreboding Cautionary Cryptic Morbid Ominous</p>	<p>Intimidating Threatening Bullying Coercive Commanding Controlling Domineering Forceful Inflammatory Menacing</p> <p>Savage, Violent Barbaric</p>	<p>Evil, Sinister Dark Diabolical Malevolent Unscrupulous Ruthless Wicked</p> <p>Crazy, Irrational Deranged Psychotic Sadistic</p> <p>Sleazy Vulgar</p>	<p>Cruel, Hateful, Hurtful, Insulting Belittling Cattie Demeaning Dehumanizing Demoralizing Derogatory Disparaging Malicious Nasty Taunting</p>	<p>Condescending, Disrespectful Arrogant Contemptuous Derisive Disdain (n) Irreverent Scornful</p> <p>Snobbish Elitist Haughty Patronizing Pretentious Self-Righteous</p>	<p>Critical, Disapproving Abrasive Blunt Harsh Judgmental Scathing Severe</p> <p>Scoffing Mocking Ridicule (n) Snide</p>
<p>Secretive Allusive Ambiguous Conspiratorial Devious Enigmatic Evasive Mysterious Veiled</p> <p>Adversarial Oppositional</p>	<p>Confusion(n), Puzzled Baffled Bemused Bewildered</p> <p>Nosey Interfering Intrusive Prying Meddlesome</p>	<p>Vindictive Spiteful Vengeful Retaliatory</p> <p>Rebellious Defiant Insolent Mutinous Recalcitrant Subversive</p>	<p>Idolatry (n) Fawning Worshipful</p> <p>Jealous, Envious Possessive</p> <p>Self-Conscious, Insecure Awkward Uncomfortable</p>	<p>Rejected Heartbroken Spurned</p> <p>Attacked, Betrayed Brooding Crushed Defensive Hurt Wounded</p>	<p>Disappointed, Frustrated Exasperated Thwarted Vexed</p> <p>Bitter, Resentful Begrudging Cynical Indignant Jaded</p>	<p>Accusatory, Condemnation (n) Insinuating Unforgiving</p> <p>Scolding Admonishing Berating Chastising Chiding Reprimanding Reproachful</p>
<p>Cold, Icy, Insensitive Artificial Callous Careless Clinical Cool Impersonal Robotic Unsympathetic</p> <p>Tolerant Indulgent Mollifying Placating</p>	<p>Passive, Unconcerned Aloof Apathetic Complacent Detached Dismissive Indifferent Unaffected Uncaring Uninterested</p> <p>Obedient Compliant Submissive Subservient</p>	<p>Sad, Unhappy, Upset Dejected Depressed Desolate Despair (n) Gloomy Haunted Melancholy Mournful Miserable</p> <p>Begging Imploring Pleading</p>	<p>Tired, Numb Emotionless Exhausted Hollow Lethargic Lifeless Listless Weary</p> <p>Hopeless Defeated Despondent Disheartened Discouraged Fatalistic Futile Resigned</p>	<p>Fearful, Desperate Apprehensive Frantic Frightened Hysterical Paranoid Trembling</p> <p>Shocked Appalled Disbelief (n) Disquieting Dismayed Horrorified Incredulous Stunned</p>	<p>Anxious, Concerned, Troubled, Worried Alarmed Agitated Disturbed Distracted Distressed Jittery Nervous Overwhelmed Perturbed Rattled Shaken Tense Uneasy</p>	<p>Doubtful, Suspicious Ambivalent Distrustful Guarded Pessimistic Skeptical Questioning</p> <p>Reluctant Cautious Conflicted Hesitant Indecisive Reticent Uncertain Wary</p>

<p>Guilty Atonement (n) Abashed Apologetic Contrite Repentant Remorseful</p> <p>Ashamed Chagrin (n) Embarrassed Humiliated Insecure Mortified Self-conscious Shame (n) Sheepish</p>	<p>Unapologetic Bold Sassy Unabashed</p> <p>Regret (n) Poignant Rueful</p> <p>Longing, Yearning Bittersweet Dreamy Nostalgic Sentimental Wistful</p>	<p>Objective, Reasonable Dispassionate Factual Impartial Matter of fact Neutral Unbiased</p> <p>Logical Pragmatic Rational</p> <p>Wise All-Knowing Perceptive Sagacious</p>	<p>Introspective Contemplative Enlightened Meditative Pensive Reflective Speculative Subdued</p> <p>Serious Grave Grim Sober Solemn Somber</p>	<p>Academic, Intellectual, Professional Analytical Cultured Businesslike Informative Philosophical Scientific Scholarly Technical Worldly</p> <p>Persuasive Cajoling Coaxing Enticing Tempting</p>	<p>Dedicated, Determined Ambitious Earnest Fervent Passionate Persevering Persistent Resolute Tenacious Undaunted Unwavering Vehement Zealous</p> <p>Inspiring Motivational</p>	<p>Confident, Strong Assertive Authoritative Decisive Self-assured</p> <p>Self-satisfied</p> <p>Firm, Urgent Adamant Emphatic Insistent</p> <p>Certainty (n) Conviction (n)</p>
<p>Composed, Dignified Calm Collected Diplomatic Formal Level-headed Mild Proper Restrained Subdued</p>	<p>Patient, Obliging, Cooperative Accommodating Agreeable Amiable Conciliatory Compromising Collaborative Reasonable</p>	<p>Content, Relaxed, Relieved At-ease Carefree Gratified Harmonious Peaceful Satisfied Serene Tranquil</p>	<p>Hopeful, Optimistic Buoyant Idealistic Positive Upbeat Uplifting</p> <p>Anticipation (n) Eagerness (n) Expectant</p>	<p>Happy Blissful Cheerful Delighted Euphoric Giddy Jovial Joyful Jubilant</p>	<p>Excitement (n) Animated Ecstatic Elated Enthusiastic</p> <p>Invigorated Energetic Exhilarated Lively Rejuvenated Youthful</p>	<p>Celebratory Triumphant Victorious</p> <p>Vindicated (the feeling of being proven correct)</p> <p>Surprised</p>
<p>Lighthearted, Funny, Playful Amused Bantering Comical Dramatic Hilarious Humorous Joking Mischievous Silly Teasing Whimsical Wry</p>	<p>Casual Easy-going Informal Nonchalant</p> <p>Shy, Timid Reserved Bashful</p> <p>Disarming</p>	<p>Supportive, Protective Caring Comforting Consoling Encouraging Gentle Maternal Paternal Reassuring Soothing</p> <p>Loving Affectionate Tender</p>	<p>Compassionate, Kind Benevolent Charitable Empathetic Humane Humanitarian Pity (n) Sensitive Sympathetic Understanding</p> <p>Forgiving Merciful</p>	<p>Courteous, Polite Civil Cordial Conversational Euphemistic Genial Gracious Pleasant</p> <p>Friendly, Warm Hospitable Inviting Welcoming</p>	<p>Awestruck Adoring Adulation (n) Awe (n) Enamored Infatuated Marvel (n) Wonder (n)</p> <p>Approving Admiring Complimentary Flattering Proud</p>	<p>Devoted, Loyal Dutiful Patriotic Pious Religious</p> <p>Respectful Admiration (n) Deferential Reverent</p>
<p>Innocent, Harmless Benign Chaste Naïve Unsuspecting Virtuous</p> <p>Trusting, Confiding</p>	<p>Appreciative Grateful Honored Moved Pleased Thankful Touched</p>	<p>Modest Humble Humility (n) Self-Deprecating Self-Effacing Unassuming Unpretentious</p>	<p>Genuine, Honest Candid Direct Forthright Frank Sincere Straightforward Truthful</p>	<p>Curious, Interested Enthralled Fascination (n) Inquisitive Intrigued Provocative</p>	<p>Adventurous, Courageous Brave Fearless Unafraid Valiant</p> <p>Chivalrous Gallant</p>	<p>Charming, Flirtatious Alluring Amorous Familiar Intimate Romantic Seductive Suggestive (sexual) Tantalizing</p>

For tone words that are **NOUNS** indicated by an (n) next to the word, you would say, “The tone is one of ____.” (awe, wonder, disbelief, atonement, regret, vindication, complacency, conviction, moral discomfort, contempt, ridicule, certainty, etc).

Sometimes to best characterize tone, you need to combine two different tones together. Examples:

Blissfully ignorant, complacently resigned, pleasantly surprised, or wistfully sad.

Created by G. Heskett (updated: 4-24-2020)