Revising Tone

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What is the Tone of a Text?

The TONE of a text is the **feeling**, **mood**, **emotion** or **atmosphere**. If you are trying to describe the tone of a text you should always ask yourself first – **is the feeling positive** or **negative**? Then find other words to describe the tone in more detail (see table for examples):

| Words to describe a positive tone: | Words to describe a negative tone: |
|---|---|
| Happy, excited, exhilarated, cheerful, understanding, funny/fun, energetic, joyful, chirpy, content, thrilled, relaxed, pleased, lucky, blissful, jovial, helpful, convincing, informative, persuasive, supportive, confident, enthusiastic, responsible, friendly, motivating, uplifting, reflective, proud, peaceful, | Sad, sombre, angry, frustrated, melancholy, agitated, furious, lonely, lost, nervous, sympathetic, dejected, miserable, depressed, gloomy, scary, anxious, uninterested, defensive, contradictory, annoyed, outraged, resentful, isolated, bittersweet, embarrassed, creepy, confusing, |
| | Note that tone can also be NUETRAL – for example, a feeling of complacency or indifference |