



# MOOD , TONE , THEME

ESLDO - UNIT 4




# MOOD

MOOD is the overall feelings or emotions that are created IN THE READER.

The “power of the pen” can move mountains.


Authors “move” their readers’ moods through their choice of words and level of detail.





# MOOD EXAMPLE

During the holidays, my mother's house glittered with decorations and hummed with preparations. We ate cookies and drank cider while we helped her wrap bright packages and trim the tree. We felt warm and excited, listening to Christmas carols and even singing along sometimes. We would tease each other about our terrible voices and then sing even louder.



**Mood:** Content, happy. How do we know? Words like "warm, excited, glittered" are used by the author.



# MOOD EXAMPLE

After New Year's the time came to put all the decorations away and settle in for the long, cold winter. The house seemed to sigh as we boxed up its finery. The tree was dry and brittle, and now waited by the side of the road to be picked up.




**Mood:** Dreary, depressed. How do we know? "cold, sigh, brittle"



# MOOD

Again, identifying the mood of a piece of writing will depend on the number of descriptive words you know to answer the question: How did this paragraph, this passage, this story make the character or make you feel?



# MOOD

## Word Choice

- Cheerful
- Relieved
- Gloomy
- Bleak
- Uncertain
- Bittersweet
- Relaxed
- Lazy
- Hopeless
- Tense
- Furious
- Disappointed
- Dreamy, foggy
- Content
- Satisfied
- Angry
- Motivated
- Inspired
- Confident
- Eerie

## Mood: "A Gift in His Shoes"

Donovan and Larry were early for baseball practice. They decided to run up and down the bleachers to exercise before the rest of the team arrived.

Larry was first to the top. He whispered to Donovan, "Look over there." He pointed to a man sleeping on the highest, narrow bench of the bleachers. His pants and shirt were faded, worn, and too large for his thin frame. One big toe stuck out of a huge hole in his sock. His scraped-up shoes sat a few feet away.

Donovan whispered, "We should help him out. Let's hide something good in his shoes. Then, when he wakes up, he will have a nice surprise."



# Mood: "A Gift in His Shoes"

How would you describe the mood of this passage?

- a. Angry
- b. Detached
- c. Sympathetic



Evidence?





# Tone

Tone is a reflection of a writer's or speaker's attitude toward a subject of a poem, story, or other literary work. Tone may be communicated through words and details that express particular emotions and that evoke an emotional response from the reader.

For example, word choice or phrasing may seem to convey respect, anger, lightheartedness, or sarcasm.



# Example


“If you had paid attention to the instruction, you would have completed the assignment long time ago.”

Tone: accusing, it is not constructive in its intention





State the tone used in the following

1. “I cannot believe that all the tickets for the World Cup are sold out!”
  2. “And now my heart is filled with pleasure and dances with warmth.”
  3. “If you persist in neglecting your homework. I’ll refer you to the principal.”
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# Theme

The theme of a literary work is its central message, concern, or purpose. A theme can usually be expressed as a generalization, or general statement, about people or life. The theme may be stated directly by the writer although it is more often presented indirectly. When the theme is stated indirectly, the reader must figure out the theme by looking carefully at what the work reveals about the people or about life.



# Identify the theme

- In his sophomore year of high school, Michael Jordan tried out for the varsity basketball team at Laney High School in Wilmington, North Carolina. But at five feet and eleven inches tall, the coach believed that Jordan was too short to play at that level, so Jordan was cut from the team. Jordan didn't let this obstacle defeat him. In fact, it pushed him to work even harder. He trained vigorously and grew another four inches the following summer. When he finally made the varsity squad, Jordan averaged 25 points a game and went on to become one of the greatest basketball players in history.
  - What is the theme of the story?
  - What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?
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