

**Mood**

Mood is the atmosphere of a piece of writing; it’s the emotions a selection arouses in a reader.

Some common mood descriptors are:

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| **POSITIVE MOOD WORDS** | **NEGATIVE MOOD WORDS** |
| amusedawedbouncycalmcheerfulchipperconfidentcontemplativecontentdetermineddignifieddreamyecstaticempoweredenergeticenlightenedenthralledexcitedexhilaratedflirtygiddygratefulharmonioushopefulhyperidyllicjoyous | jubilantliberatinglight-heartedlovingmellownostalgicoptimisticpassionatepeacefulplayfulpleasedrefreshedrejuvenatedrelaxedrelievedsatiatedsatisfiedsentimentalsillysurprisedsympatheticthankfulthoughtfultouchedtrustfulvivaciouswarmwelcoming | aggravatedannoyedanxiousapatheticapprehensivebarrenbroodingcoldconfiningconfusedcrankycrushedcynicaldepresseddesolatedisappointeddiscontenteddistresseddraineddrearyembarrassedenragedenviousexhaustedfatalisticforebodingfrustratedfutilegloomygrumpyhauntingheartbrokenhopelesshostileindifferentinfuriated | insidiousintimidatedirateirritatedjealouslethargiclonelymelancholicmercilessmoodymorosenauseatednervousnightmarishnumboverwhelmedpainfulpensivepessimisticpredatoryrejectedrestlessscaredserioussicksomberstressedsuspensefultenseterrifyingthreateninguncomfortablevengefulviolentworried |

One good way to see mood (and, to a degree, tone) in action is through genre-crossing movie trailers. In film editing classes throughout the States, a common assignment is to take an existing film (say, a comedy) and create a film preview that presents the film as a different genre (for example, a horror film). This is accomplished through editing and splicing scenes, adding new, anxiety-producing music and sound effects, and adding a new voice-over introduction.

Some of the best examples of this are below.

* *Mary Poppins* as a horror film: [Scary Mary](http://ourenglishclass.net/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/marypoppins1.mp4)
* *Dumb and Dumber* was turned into a horror film, *Lurk and Lurker*: [Dumb and Dumber (Horror)](http://ourenglishclass.net/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/dumb.mp4)
* *The Shining* was transformed from horror film into a feel-good romantic comedy: [The Shining (Feel-Good/Romantic Comedy)](http://ourenglishclass.net/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/shining.mp4)