**Tone**

Tone is the author’s attitude toward a subject. While journalistic writing theoretically has a tone of distance and objectivity, all other writing can have various tones. Tone can also be witnessed in music and visual expressions as well as writing.

If we were to read a description of a first date that included words and phrases like “dreaded” and “my buddies forced me to go on the date”, we could assume that the individual didn’t really enjoy the date.

Some tone words include:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **POSITIVE TONE WORDS** |  **NEUTRAL****(+**,**-**,**or neutral)** | **NEGATIVE TONE WORDS** |
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| admiringadoringaffectionateappreciativeapprovingbemusedbenevolentblithecalmcasualcelebratorycheerfulcomfortingcomiccompassionatecomplimentaryconciliatoryconfidentcontenteddelightfulearnestebullientecstaticeffusiveelatedempatheticencouragingeuphoricexcitedexhilaratedexpectantfacetiousferventflippantforthrightfriendlyfunnygleefulgushyhappy | hilarioushopefulhumorousinterestedintrospectivejovialjoyfullaudatorylightlivelymirthfulmodestnostalgicoptimisticpassionateplacidplayfulpoignantproudreassuringreflectiverelaxedrespectfulreverentromanticsanguinescholarlyself-assured sentimentalserenesillysprightlystraightforwardsympathetictendertranquilwhimsicalwistfulworshipfulzealous | commandingdirectimpartialindirectmeditativeobjectivequestioningspeculativeunambiguousunconcernedunderstated | abhorringacerbicambiguousambivalentangryannoyedantagonisticanxiousapatheticapprehensivebelligerentbewilderedbitingbitterbluntbossycoldconceitedcondescendingconfusedcontemptuouscurtcynicaldemandingdepressedderisivederogatorydesolatedespairingdesperatedetacheddiabolicdisappointeddislikingdisrespectfuldoubtfulembarrassedenragedevasivefatalisticfearfulforcefulforebodingfranticfrightenedfrustratedfuriousgloomygravegreedygrimharshhaughtyholier-than-thouhopeless | hostileimpatientincredulousindifferentindignantinflammatoryinsecureinsolentirreverentlethargicmelancholymischievousmiserablemockingmournfulnervousominousoutragedparanoidpatheticpatronizingpedanticpensivepessimisticpretentiouspsychoticresignedreticentsarcasticsardonicscornfulself-deprecatingselfishseriousseveresinisterskepticalslysolemnsombersternstolidstressfulstridentsuspicioustensethreateningtragicuncertainuneasyunfriendlyunsympatheticupsetviolentwry |