

## Words that Describe Tone

**Accusatory** – charging of wrong doing

**Apathetic** – indifferent due to lack of energy or concern

**Cynical** – questions the basic sincerity and goodness of people

**Critical** – finding fault

**Didactic** – author attempts to educate or instruct the reader

**Derisive** – ridiculing, mocking

**Earnest** -- intense, a sincere state of mind

**Haughty** – proud and vain to the point of arrogance

**Intimate** – very familiar

**Judgmental** – authoritative and often having critical opinions

**Matter-of-fact** – accepting of conditions; not fanciful or emotional

**Objective** – an unbiased view-able to leave personal judgments aside

**Patronizing** – air of condescension

**Pessimistic** – seeing the worst side of things; no hope

**Ribald** – offensive in speech or gesture

**Reverent** – treating a subject with honor and respect

**Reflective** – illustrating innermost thoughts and emotions

**Sarcastic** – sneering, caustic

**Sincere** – without deceit or pretense; genuine

**Solemn** – deeply earnest, tending toward sad reflection