**Tone and Mood**

**Tone** is the **speaker’s** attitude or feelings toward a subject.

**Mood** is the atmosphere of a piece of writing; it’s the emotional effect that the text creates for the **reader/audience**.

Oftentimes, you can determine a poem’s tone and mood by looking at a word’s **connotation**, or its ***implied*** meaning. A word’s connotations are the emotions and associations connected with a word.

Depending on our experiences, certain words have a positive, negative, or neutral connotation. For example, “childish” has a negative connotation because it implies that someone is immature, but “youthful” has a more positive connotation because it implies that someone is lively and energetic.

|  |
| --- |
| **TIPS TO DETERMINE TONE AND MOOD IN A TEXT**   * Circle words that stand out to you.   + Do these words have a positive or a negative connotation?   + What other words do they remind you of?   + Why did the speaker choose to use this word in particular instead of another word? * How does the speaker feel about the topic/other characters? * How do YOU feel when reading the poems? |

*(See back to see words to describe tone and mood.)*