

Interpretive / Descriptive Words

To Explain the Effects of the Creative Use of Language

ALTERNATIVES TO THE WORD "SHOW"!

Students find it easier to write about the *how* of language when they learn this kind of vocabulary.

suggests
indicates
clarifies
displays
presents
portrays
represents
enables
mirrors
echoes
reflects
enhances
emphasizes
creates emphasis
amplifies
illustrates
acknowledges
elicits
implies
simplifies
intensifies
personifies
stands for
renders
increases

accentuates
projects
highlights
softens
stresses
relates
insinuates
evokes
illuminates
exaggerates
sheds light on
defines
mimics
characterizes
justifies
conveys
points to
embodies
epitomizes
exemplifies
demonstrates
symbolizes
delineates
expands
reveals

TONE

Tone is the author's attitude toward the subject and the audience. For example, the sentence, "That's fine," can have different meanings depending on the context in which it is used. It may be said matter-of-factly, sarcastically, or with sympathy. The following is a very basic tone vocabulary list. These words are common tones authors can have in their work. Use them when referring to the author's tone.

angry	cold	condescending
sharp	urgent	sympathetic
upset	joking	mock-serious
silly	poignant	contemptuous
hollow	detached	apologetic
joyful	childish	humorous
sweet	ironic	horrific
vexed	mocking	sarcastic
bitter	objective	nostalgic
dreamy	frivolous	jealous
informative	shocking	irreverent
restrained	somber	seductive
proud	giddy	pitiful
dramatic	provocative	clinical
sad	sentimental	