Tone/Attitude Words Categorized

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Positive | | | |
| lighthearted  confident  amused  complimentary  amiable  relaxed  soothing  jubilant  encouraging  reverent | hopeful  cheery  elated  passionate  whimsical  romantic  calm | enthusiastic  elevated  exuberant  optimistic  sympathetic  proud  fanciful  appreciative  consoling  ecstatic | jovial  loving  compassionate  friendly  pleasant  brave  joyful  energetic |
| **Negative** | | | |
| angry  wrathful  threatening  agitated | obnoxious  insulting  choleric  disgusted  bitter  accusing  arrogant | quarrelsome  surly  outraged  irritated  condemnatory  belligerent | disgruntled  furious  indignant  inflammatory  aggravated  brash  testy |
| **Humor/Irony/Sarcasm** | | | |
| scornful  bantering  disdainful  irreverent  condescending  pompous  mocking  ridiculing  wry | sarcastic  taunting  cynical  insolent  patronizing  whimsical | malicious  droll  critical  ironic  facetious  flippant  mock-heroic  teasing  quizzical | comical  satiric  amused  sardonic  contemptuous  caustic  ribald  irreverent |
| **Sorrow/Fear/Worry** | | | |
| somber  mournful  concerned  morose  hopeless  remorseful | poignant  melancholy  solemn  fearful  pessimistic  grave  staid  ominous  sad | serious  despairing  sober  solemn  resigned  horror | disturbed  apprehensive  gloomy  foreboding  mournful  regretful |
| **Neutral** | | | |
| formal  objective  questioning  learned  authoritative  disbelieving  sentimental  pretentious  apathetic | conventional  judgmental  reflective  ceremonial  candid  instructive  factual  incredulous  urgent  fervent  histrionic  callous | forthright  lyrical  sincere  restrained  clinical  matter-of-fact  didactic  shocked  nostalgic  earnest  resigned  contemplative | haughty  objective  detached  admonitory  informative  baffled  reminiscent  patriotic  meditative  intimate  obsequious |

**Add your own:**

http://www.edmondschools.net/Portals/0/docs/Writing%20Center/Middle/STEPS-Tone-Attitude-Words-Categorized.pdf