

# INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



## SOAPSTone

This is a structured literacy activity that assists students in analyzing difficult text with a step-by-step approach: Speaker, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, Subject matter, and Tone.

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## SOAPSTONE

### Summary

This literacy strategy assists students in analyzing a challenging piece of text. For students who have difficulty understanding how to analyze and interpret what they read, this strategy offers a structured step-by-step approach. A variety of SOAPSTONE student handouts can be found through an internet search.

### Procedure

1. Explain to students how to use the SOAPSTONE strategy to analyze text. A handout may be helpful for this activity. Guide students through each letter of the acronym as detailed below.
2. **S:** Who is the **SPEAKER** or author of the text?
3. **O:** What is the **OCCASION** of the text? What is the time and place of the document?
4. **A:** Who is the **AUDIENCE** that the text is addressing?
5. **P:** What is the **PURPOSE** for which the text was written?
6. **S:** What is the **SUBJECT** matter? **SUMMARIZE** what the text is about.
7. **T:** What is the **TONE** of the document? What is the author's attitude in the writing?

Morse, O. (2020). SOAPSTONE: a strategy for reading and writing. AP Central.  
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/resources/soapstone-strategy-reading-and-writing>