

**What is tone as it relates to literacy?**

WriteToLearn® references tone in some of the feedback students receive in essay writing. Below is information that may be helpful as teachers address the element of tone in their instruction.

The paragraph below is from the CCR-5 Curriculum Guide related to WriteToLearn®. It is found in the column listed as Resources when logging into a WriteToLearn® teacher account.”

"In grades 7 and 8, Standard 5 is expanded to include a specific focus "on how well purpose and audience have been addressed." In grades 9-12, students are required to be able to address "what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience." WriteToLearn addresses these important elements through the expanded trait specific feedback. For example, the rubric for the Development of Ideas trait looks for supporting details that are well chosen and effective for purpose and audience, and hold the reader's interest. The Language and Style trait looks for a tone that is appropriate to topic, audience, and purpose."

The following information is found in the Iowa Core Curriculum introduction to literacy: (<https://iowacore.gov/iowa-core/subject/literacy>). It is the only reference in the Core.

"They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.  
Students adapt their communication in relation to audience, task, purpose, and discipline. They set and adjust purpose for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language use as warranted by the task. They appreciate nuances, such as how the composition of an audience should affect tone when speaking and how the connotations of words affect meaning. They also know that different disciplines call for different types of evidence (e.g., documentary evidence in history, experimental evidence in science)."

Below are websites that address tone. The reader may find websites that are more useful. If so, please share them and they may be added to the list.

<https://www.writerswrite.co.za/155-words-to-describe-an-authors-tone/>

<https://jerryjenkins.com/tone-in-writing/>

<https://www.grammarly.com/blog/tone-and-emotions/>