

Tone, Style, and Mood

"Do you guys think Sabatini will be on time for once?" wondered Flannery as she adjusted her toolbelt and put on a pair of safety goggles. "I think it will take all four of us to get my grandmother's house cleaned out by the end of the day."

"It's already 100 degrees out here," Wilkie whined. He was lounging on a cooler full of cold sodas and wishing he had stayed home in bed. "This is going to be pure torture."

"You said the same thing about the 5K race to raise money for multiple sclerosis," Fyodor reminded Wilkie. "Then you had a great time in spite of all your complaining. When we work together as a team, there is nothing too difficult for us."

"I think we should begin by cleaning out the garage," Flannery mused. "My grandmother showed me where to put all the boxes and furniture."

"Let's get busy!" exclaimed Fyodor with a whoop. He tossed a pair of gloves to Wilkie, and they started moving furniture at Flannery's direction. She was carrying boxes to the curb when a car pulled up beside her.

"Sorry I'm late," Sabatini told Flannery. "I totally forgot that you guys needed my help until this morning. Do you think I can leave early? I'd like to get to GameBug as early as possible to buy a new video game." Flannery dropped the boxes she was carrying and turned to face her friend.

"I'm surprised at you, Sab," she said sadly. "My grandmother has to sell her house and move into a nursing home. I asked you guys to help me move her stuff because it will really help her out. If you'd rather go buy video games than help my grandmother, then I don't want you here. I just thought you were a better person than that." Sabatini's face fell at Flannery's words.

"I'm sorry," he replied. "I didn't realize how important this is to you. I'll stay as long as it takes, I promise."

"Thanks," said Flannery with a smile. "You can help me move these boxes."

"Now that Sabatini is here, we're all set," Fyodor yelled from inside the garage. "Today will be the greatest housecleaning event in history!"

"This isn't as bad as I thought it would be," admitted Wilkie as he easily picked up one end of a sofa. "It's a great feeling to help your grandmother. She's the nicest woman I know."

"Well, aren't you sweet!" said a voice from inside the house. "Just for that compliment, I'm going to bake one of my famous chocolate cakes for you all to eat after lunch." Regina, Flannery's grandmother, entered the garage and smiled at her granddaughter's friends.

"Thanks, Mrs. O'Connor," Sabatini replied. "We're happy to help, though, even without chocolate cake."

"Speak for yourself!" protested Fyodor and Wilkie.

"I appreciate this more than I can say," Regina told her granddaughter. "You have wonderful friends." Flannery watched with pride as her friends carried furniture and hauled boxes.

"I sure do," she agreed happily and went back to work.

1. Which character demonstrates a grateful tone?

- A. Fyodor
- B. Wilkie
- C. Sabatini
- D. Regina

2. Fyodor's tone in this passage is primarily

- A. optimistic.
- B. apathetic.
- C. critical.
- D. egotistical.

3. In this passage, Wilkie's tone changes from
- A. resigned to resentful.
 - B. outraged to happy.
 - C. cheerful to disheartened.
 - D. pessimistic to excited.
4. The overall tone of this passage is
- A. fantastical.
 - B. disdainful.
 - C. inspirational.
 - D. ironic.
5. What impact does Flannery's disappointed tone have on Sabatini?
- A. It inspires him to work hard.
 - B. It makes him jealous of Fyodor.
 - C. It causes him to leave in disgust.
 - D. It damages his self-esteem.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. My name is Stewart Barton. Tonight, I am pleased to introduce Principal Tony Jammell. Mr. Jammell has been an integral part of the academic improvement seen in Littlefield High School. He inspires his teachers to hone their craft and to become positive influences in the students' lives. He knows every student's name and treats everyone with respect. He has the ability to connect and empathize with everyone he knows. What's not to love about this guy? So, without further ado, I present to you Mr. Tony Jammell.

6. The tone of the passage is appropriate for what situation?
- A. classroom lecture
 - B. party with friends
 - C. outing with family
 - D. award ceremony
7. Which sentence is inconsistent with the formal tone of the speech?
- A. Good evening ladies and gentlemen.
 - B. So, without further ado, I present to you Mr. Tony Jammell.
 - C. What's not to love about this guy?
 - D. Tonight, I am pleased to introduce Principal Tony Jammell.
8. Why does the author use a formal tone?
- A. to make Jammell uncomfortable
 - B. to show his respect for Jammell
 - C. to make the audience laugh
 - D. to appear well educated

My sister sang at our cousin's wedding last June. I'd heard her sing before, but our extended family never had. My sister always talked about being in the choir. However, I don't think everyone realized the magnificence of her voice. When she hits the high notes, a ringing sweetness courses through the room. She belts out ballads with passion and emotion. The audience at the wedding was mesmerized by her performance. I only wish that I could sing as well as her. When I sing, the audience suddenly looks like they all got indigestion. I guess I should just leave the singing up to my sister. I only sing in the shower and in my car.

9. The line "When I sing, the audience suddenly looks like they all got indigestion" is meant to be
- A. humorous.
 - B. harsh.
 - C. appreciative.
 - D. regretful.
10. Which sentence **best** contributes to the admiring tone of the passage?
- A. She belts out ballads with passion and emotion.
 - B. My sister always talked about being in the choir.
 - C. My sister sang at our cousin's wedding last June.
 - D. I only sing in the shower and in my car.