Tone/Attitude Words:  Tone refers to the author's attitude towards the subject of the writing. Tone can also refer to a character's attitude towards another character.

1. accusatory—charging of wrong doing
2. allusive—characterized by indirect references; hard to grasp
3. angry
4. apathetic-indifferent due to lack of energy or concern
5. apologetic
6. audacious—brave and shocking
7. awe-solemn wonder
8. benevolent—kind and generous
9. bitter—exhibiting strong animosity as a result of pain or grief
10. bored
11. callous—unfeeling, insensitive to feelings of others
12. candid—directly truthful; honest
13. caustic—intense use of sarcasm; stinging, biting
14. childish
15. choleric—hot-tempered, easily angered
16. cold
17. complimentary
18. condescension; condescending—a feeling of superiority
19. confused
20. contemplative—studying, thinking, reflecting on an issue
21. contemptuous—showing or feeling that something is worthless or lacks respect
22. conventional—lacking spontaneity, originality, and individuality
23. critical—finding fault
24. cynical—questions the basic sincerity and goodness of people
25. derisive—ridiculing, mocking
26. detached—not reacting to or becoming involved in something in an emotional way; reserved
27. didactic—author attempts to educate or instruct the reader
28. disdainful—scornful
29. dramatic
30. dreamy
31. earnest—intense, a sincere state of mind
32. erudite—learned, polished, scholarly
33. fanciful—using the imagination
34. fearful
35. forthright—directly frank without hesitation
36. frivolous—not serious or sensible
37. giddy—feeling silly, happy and excited
38. gloomy—darkness, sadness, rejection
39. happy
40. haughty—proud and vain to the point of arrogance
41. hollow—feelings or words that are hollow are not sincere or important; empty
42. horrific—very bad and shocking
43. humorous
44. indignant—marked by anger aroused by injustice
45. intimate—very familiar
46. irreverent—showing a lack of respect for organizations, customs, beliefs, etc.
47. joking
48. jovial—happy
49. joyful
50. judgmental—authoritative and often having critical opinions
51. lyrical—expressing a poet's inner feelings; emotional; full of images; song-like
52. malicious—purposely hurtful
53. matter-of-fact—accepting of conditions; not fanciful or emotional
54. mocking—treating with contempt or ridicule
55. morose—gloomy, sullen, surly, despondent
56. nostalgic—feeling or expressing a slight sadness or longing when remembering happy events from the past
57. objective—an unbiased view-able to leave personal judgments aside
58. obsequious—polite and obedient in order to gain something
59. optimistic—hopeful, cheerful
60. patronizing—air of condescension
61. peaceful
62. pessimistic—seeing the worst side of things; no hope
63. pitiful
64. poignant—making you have strong feelings of sadness or pity
65. provocative—intended to make people angry or to cause a lot of discussion
66. quizzical—odd, eccentric, amusing
67. reflective—illustrating innermost thoughts and emotions
68. restrained—calm; controlled; does not show the stronger emotions you feel; holding back feelings
69. reverent—treating a subject with honor and respect
70. ribald—offensive in speech or gesture
71. ridiculing—slightly contemptuous banter; making fun of
72. sad
73. sanguineous—optimistic, cheerful
74. sarcastic—sneering, caustic
75. sardonic—scornfully and bitterly sarcastic
76. satiric—ridiculing to show weakness in order to make a point, teach
77. seductive—very interesting or attractive; alluringly persuasive
78. sentimental—relating to or easily affected by emotions such as love, sympathy, sadness, etc.
79. sharp
80. shocking
81. silly
82. sincere—without deceit or pretense; genuine
83. solemn—deeply earnest, tending toward sad reflection
84. somber—sad and serious; dark and without any brightness
85. sweet
86. sympathetic—willing to listen to someone’s problem, or able to understand someone’s problem
87. tired
88. upset
89. urgent—very important and needing to be dealt with immediately
90. vexed—annoyed or worried
91. vibrant—exciting and full of activity and energy
92. whimsical—odd, strange, fantastic; fun
93. zealous—extremely interested in and excited about something that you believe in very strongly

**Positive Mood Words**
Light-hearted
Playful
Tender
Enlightened
Optimistic
Liberating
Warm
Hopeful
Nostalgic
Peaceful
Welcoming
Harmonious
Trutful
Vivacious—lively/energetic
Confident
Idyllic
Sympathetic
Joyous
Dignified
Ecstatic
Empowered
Inclusive

**Negative Mood Words**
Tense/Anxious
Gloomy
Heartbroken
Violent
Insidious
Pessimistic
Confining
Cold
Hopeless
Haunting
Nightmarish
Hostile
Suspenseful
Foreboding
Painful
Threatening
Desolate
Merciless
Terrifying
Barren