



# ENGAGE NOW!

## REVIEW OF TONE WORDS, DEFINITION OF THEME, AND PASSIVE VS. ACTIVE VOICE

by Jordan Kohanim, Northview High School, Johns Creek, GA (March 2015)

### TONE WORDS:

**Ambivalent:** having mixed feelings, could go either way

**Caustic:** harshly sarcastic

**Cautionary:** prudent forethought

**Cynical:** distrustful, ironic

**Demoralized:** discouraged

**Didactic:** intending to instruct, preachy

**Derisive:** insulting and condescending; rude

**Earnest:** heartfelt and serious

**Elegiac:** sorrowful lamentation, mournful

**Erudite:** scholarly (positive connotation)

**Fatuous:** foolish or insane; silly

**Flippant:** frivolously disrespectful (usually ironically so)

**Jejune:** immature or childish

**Lugubrious:** mournful, dismal, or gloomy

**Morose:** ill-humored, very down, sad

**Malicious:** vicious, wanton, or mischievous, looking to hurt someone

**Nihilistic:** totally rejecting of established laws or institutions.

**Patronizing:** Talking down to, conveying experience to one who has none

**Poignant** producing keen or strong emotion; emotive on a very high level

**Provocative:** inciting, stimulating, irritating

**Reverent:** deeply respectful

**Reflective:** meditative or deliberative

**Sardonic** scornful derision, cynical

**Sentimental:** meant to evoke emotional attachment

**Unctuous:** smug, oily (verbally that is) or excessively pious

**Volatile:** tending or threatening to break out into open violence; hyperbolic demagoguery

### THEME:

You will now be responsible for this phrase: "THEME IS THE MESSAGE THE AUTHOR IS TRYING TO CONVEY ABOUT THE HUMAN CONDITION."

I reserve the right to quiz you on this phrase. If you do not get **EVERY. SINGLE. WORD** right, you will not receive credit.

### PASSIVE AND ACTIVE VOICE

Harry ate six shrimp at dinner. (active)

At dinner, six shrimp were eaten by Harry. (passive)

Beautiful giraffes roam the savannah. (active)

The savannah is roamed by beautiful giraffes. (passive)

Sue changed the flat tire. (active)

The flat tire was changed by Sue. (passive)

We are going to watch a movie tonight. (active)

A movie is going to be watched by us tonight. (passive)

I ran the obstacle course in record time. (active)

The obstacle course was run by me in record time. (passive)

The crew paved the entire stretch of highway. (active)

The entire stretch of highway was paved by the crew. (passive)

Mom read the novel in one day. (active)

The novel was read by Mom in one day. (passive)

The critic wrote a scathing review. (active)

The teacher always answers the students' questions. (active)

The students' questions are always answered by the teacher. (passive)

The choir really enjoys that piece. (active)

That piece is really enjoyed by the choir. (passive)

Who taught you to ski? (active)

By whom were you taught to ski? (passive)

The forest fire destroyed the whole suburb. (active)

The whole suburb was destroyed by the forest fire. (passive)

The two kings are signing the treaty. (active)

The treaty is being signed by the two kings. (passive)

The cleaning crew vacuums and dusts the office every night. (active)

Every night the office is vacuumed and dusted by the cleaning crew. (passive)

Larry generously donated money to the homeless shelter. (active)

A scathing review was written by the critic.  
(passive)

I will clean the house every Saturday. (active)  
The house will be cleaned by me every Saturday.  
(passive)

The staff is required to watch a safety video  
every year. (active)  
A safety video will be watched by the staff every  
year. (passive)

She faxed her application for a new job. (active)  
The application for a new job was faxed by her.  
(passive)

Tom painted the entire house. (active)  
The entire house was painted by Tom. (passive)

The director will give you instructions. (active)  
Instructions will be given to you by the director.  
(passive)

Thousands of tourists view the Grand Canyon  
every year. (active)  
The Grand Canyon is viewed by thousands of  
tourists every year. (passive)

Money was generously donated to the homeless  
shelter by Larry. (passive)

No one responded to my sales ad. (active)  
My sales ad was not responded to by anyone.  
(passive)

The wedding planner is making all the reservations.  
(active)  
All the reservations will be made by the wedding  
planner. (passive)

Susan will bake two dozen cupcakes for the bake  
sale. (active)  
For the bake sale, two dozen cookies will be baked  
by Susan. (passive)

The science class viewed the comet. (active)  
The comet was viewed by the science class.  
(passive)

Who ate the last cookie? (active)  
The last cookie was eaten by whom? (passive)

Alex posted the video on Facebook. (active)  
The video was posted on Facebook by Alex.  
(passive)