

Literary Analysis

TONE

Tone expresses the writer’s attitude toward a subject. You can usually describe a tone using a single adjective, such as *respectful*, *outraged*, or *mocking*. To identify the tone, consider the poem’s imagery and word choices. Also pay close attention to the speaker’s thoughts and feelings. These elements work together to create the tone of a poem.

Directions: Identify the tone of each passage. Then describe the overall tone of each poem.

“An Irish Airman Foresees His Death”

Passage	Tone	How This Tone Is Created	Overall Tone of Poem
<p>“Those that I fight I do not hate,/ Those that I guard I do not love;” (lines 3–5)</p>			

“The Soldier”

Passage	Tone	How This Tone Is Created	Overall Tone of Poem
<p>“There shall be . . . blest by suns of home.” (lines 3–8)</p>			

“Dreamers”

Passage	Tone	How This Tone Is Created	Overall Tone of Poem
<p>“Soldiers are citizens of death’s gray land,/ Drawing no dividend from time’s tomorrows.” (lines 1–2)</p>			

AN IRISH AIRMAN FORESEES HIS DEATH / THE SOLDIER / DREAMERS