



Understanding Word Meanings and Tone

Today's Standard

8.RI.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

Cues	Notes
What are context clues?	Context clues are hints found within a sentence, paragraph, or passage that a reader can use to understand the meanings of new or unfamiliar words.
What is figurative language?	Figurative language includes metaphors, similes, personification, and hyperbole, used to create more interesting and vivid descriptions.
How can word choice affect tone?	Word choice can affect tone by conveying emotions and attitudes. For example, the word 'slender' has a positive connotation, while 'skinny' can have a negative one.
What are connotative meanings?	Connotative meanings are the emotional or cultural associations with a word, beyond its literal definition.

Summary

Understanding the meaning of words and phrases, including figurative and connotative meanings, and analyzing the impact of word choice on tone, are essential skills for interpreting complex texts.