



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? | |
| How can word choice affect tone? | Figurative language includes metaphors, similes, personification, and hyperbole, used to create more interesting and vivid descriptions. |
| What are connotative meanings? | 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. 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.