



Word Meaning and Tone Analysis

Today's Standard

9-10.RI.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).

Cues	Notes
What is connotation?	Connotation refers to the emotional or cultural associations of a word beyond its literal meaning.
How does context influence word meaning?	Context can change the meaning of a word; for example, 'bark' can mean the sound a dog makes or the outer covering of a tree.
What is tone?	Tone is the author's attitude toward the subject, which can be inferred through word choice.
How can word choice affect tone?	Word choice can subtly influence the tone; for example, 'slim' versus 'skinny' can suggest different attitudes.
Give examples of figurative language.	Figurative language includes metaphors, similes, personification, etc., which add deeper meaning to the text.

Summary

Understanding the meaning of words and phrases in context, including their connotative, figurative, and technical meanings, is essential for analyzing the impact of word choice on the meaning and tone of a text.