

Analyzing Word Choice and Tone

Today's Standard

9-10.RL.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing the tone in a political speech; Interpreting figurative language in poetry; Understanding connotations in advertising; Examining word choice in historical documents; Analyzing character dialogue in novels

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about how words in a story can mean different things. We also talked about how the way words are used can make the story feel happy or sad.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think that special words always mean something good. They also might think that the feeling of the story is always told to them directly. But, special words can mean good or bad things, and the feeling of the story is often shown through how words are used.

Quiz Me

- What does 'tone' mean?
- Can a word have more than one meaning?
- What is a metaphor?
- How can words make a story feel happy or sad?
- What should you look for to understand the feeling of a story?

Help Me

When reading a book, think about how the words make you feel. Do they make you happy, sad, or excited? Look at the words the author uses and think about why they chose those words. This will help you understand the story better.