

Persuasive Techniques and Author's Purpose

Name:

The author uses emotional language by careful word choice. These words indicate a certain **TONE** from the author or the author's attitude toward his subject. Other careful word choice creates a **MOOD** or feeling in the reader. Another way to describe mood is atmosphere. When you walk into a place, it has an atmosphere that makes you feel a certain way. The same could be said for "walking into" a text.



Tone, & Mood

1. Consider the following quote from the article on page 13:

“For us girls that doorway was like a magical entrance to our own special world. As we skipped through, we cast off our headscarves like winds puffing away clouds to make way for the sun, then ran helter-skelter up the steps.”

What **TONE** toward school does this quote reveal?

What words in the quote did Malala use to achieve that tone?

2. Consider this quote from a paragraph on page 13:

“The school was founded by my father before I was born, and on the wall above us KHUSHAL SCHOOL was painted proudly in red and white letters. We went to school six mornings a week. As a 15-year-old in Year 9, my classes were spent changing chemical equations or studying Urdu grammar; writing stories in English with morals like “Haste makes waste” or drawing diagrams of blood circulation—most of my classmates wanted to be doctors. It’s hard to imagine that anyone would see that as a threat.”

What is the **MOOD** of this passage?

What words in the quote helped create that mood?

3. Read the first 6 paragraphs of the section ‘Who is Malala?’ on page 14 beginning with “The bus...” and ending with “...I was the only girl with my face not covered.”

What is the **MOOD** of this passage?

What words in the quote helped create that mood?

4. Reread Malala’s speech in the section **Speaking at the U.N.** List words or phrases from the speech in the chart below.

Words and phrases that describe Malala and her allies	Words and phrases that describe the Taliban
<i>respected elders and my dear brothers and sisters</i>	<i>terrorists</i>
<i>thousands of voices</i>	

- a. What is the effect of how Malala describes her allies? What impression does it create in her audience?
- b. What impression does her description of the Taliban create?
5. When speaking to the United Nations, Malala called books and pens “powerful weapons.” What do you think she meant? Do you agree? Explain.

Author’s Purpose

1. The author’s purpose in this selection is to inform about _____
_____.
2. The author would like for the reader to believe _____
_____.

*Adapted from a Scholastic Scope activity.