

"TWIST" METHOD OF LITERARY ANALYSIS FOR PROSE AND POETRY¹

Tone:	What is the author's tone?
Word Choice:	What particular word choice may be indicative of the author's feelings?
Imagery and Detail:	Is there any specific imagery or use of detail that indicates the author's attitude or evokes a particular reaction from the reader?
Style:	Does the author demonstrate any characteristic style that may help with interpretation?
Theme:	What theme does the author present in the passage or poem?

Tone

- ◆ Tone is the attitude of the author or speaker toward the subject

Word Choice of Diction

- ◆ This refers to the specific words or clusters of words in the selection that are loaded with connotation, associations, or emotional impact.

Imagery and Detail

- ◆ Imagery refers to sense impressions created by the writer.
- ◆ Images may be those of sound, touch, smell, taste, or sight
- ◆ Detail refers to facts or objects

Style

- ◆ Style refers to the author's characteristic use of language and the tools of a writer: figurative language, point of view, literary techniques, punctuation, etc.

Theme

- ◆ Theme concerns the meaning of the passage, the insight, both particular and universal, that an author has to offer about life itself and has to do with the overall effect or impact of a piece of writing.
- ◆ It is the core of the work, its reason for being

¹ From *The College Board's AP Vertical Teams Guide for English*