**TONE AND MOOD**

**Mood:** The feelings created in the reader by a literary work. Events, descriptions, setting and tone all contribute to a story’s mood. For example, a story’s mood might be hopeful, suspenseful, joyous, sorrowful, discouraged. Basically, it is **HOW YOU FEEL** when you read the story. Does it make you laugh or cry? Does it make you happy or mad?

**Tone:** The attitude an author takes toward his subject, character, or reader. Tone is created through details and word choice. For example, a story’s tone may be humorous, sympathetic, serious, or angry.

**Assignment:**

**Directions-**Name that Mood/Tone: How did you feel when you read the following chapters or passages of Red Kayak? What tone was the author trying to create for his character?

\*When you answer the questions be sure to **give examples** that help support your answer. No answer should just be one or two sentences. If you do not have adequate examples I will ask you to add more details.

1. It was Ben. But as I drew closer I could see that he was motionless, his small body hunched forward, the back of his life jacket caught on a jagged piece of old piling that jutted out of the water like a rotten tooth. “Ben! Are you okay?” I hollered, pulling the boat up alongside. His eyes weren’t right. I flipped the engine into neutral and reached over to pull in Ben . . . the water was cold, too… For a second, I lost my balance and nearly went headfirst myself. But I managed to pull Ben into my boat on top of me. It was a rough landing, and I hit my elbow hard on the gunnel. I just hopped I hadn’t hurt Ben.

When I read this passage, the word that best described my mood was\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I think the tone the author was trying to set was one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Explain your answers.

2. After Brady found Ben Mom said to him: “Come inside and get some dry clothes on.” It had only been a few hours since I left for school that morning, but as I entered the house, it felt as though I’d been away for a year. The smallest things seemed welcoming. The vase of flowers Mom had made in her pottery class filled with dried cattails, The small mahogany table with the picture of me from sixth grade. The way Dad’s dirt-caked work boots rested on a piece of newspaper inside the door. . . I took a long, hot shower . . . my mom had a cup of hot chocolate waiting for me and pulled out a chair.

When I read this passage, the word that best described my mood was\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I think the tone the author was trying to set was one of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Explain your answer.

Describe an internal conflict (man vs. self) Brady has faced in this story: