Identifying Mood

Mood is the feeling the reader gets from a work of literature. Another way to describe mood is atmosphere. When you walk into a place, it has an atmosphere that makes you feel a certain way; when you "walk into" a text, it too has an atmosphere that makes you feel a certain way. For example, the mood could be *calm*, *creepy*, *romantic*, *gloomy*, or *tense*. Authors create mood through word choice, imagery, dialogue, setting, and plot. The mood can stay the same from the beginning to the end of a text, or it can change.

Mood Words

Mood is the feeling the reader gets from a work of literature. There are *many* different words you can use to describe the mood of a piece of writing. Here are some to get you started. They are organized into groups of words with similar meanings. We've left space in each box so you can add your own words.

angry	happy
aggravated, enraged, hostile, irate, violent	content, joyful, delighted, ecstatic, elated

boring	loving
dreary, dull, uneventful, tiring	warm, delicate, romantic, touching, sympathetic

calm	sad
quiet, serene, tranquil, mellow, harmonious	depressed, melancholy, mournful, tragic, gloomy

exciting	scary
exhilarating, lively, rousing, thrilling, energetic	creepy, nightmarish, spooky, haunting, threatening

fun	worried
amusing, bouncy, cheerful, playful	anxious, nervous, restless, suspenseful, tense, uneasy