Tone Vocabulary #1

Definitions

1. abashed – ashamed or embarrassed

2. abstruse – difficult to understand

3. acerbic – harsh or severe, as of temper or expression

4. ambiguous – open to or having several meanings or interpretations

5. belligerent – warlike; given to waging war

6. benevolent – characterized by or expressing goodwill or kindly feelings

7. blithe – joyous, merry, or happy in disposition; glad; cheerful

8. blunt – abrupt in address or manner; slow in perception or understanding; obtuse

9. candid – frank; outspoken; open and sincere; free from reservation; straightforward

10. capricious – flighty; led by whims; erratic

11. caustic – making biting, corrosive comments

12. choleric – extremely irritable or easily angered; irascible

13. derisive – contemptuous; mocking

14. diabolic – having the qualities of a devil; fiendish; outrageously wicked

15. didactic – intended for instruction; instructive

16. diffident – lacking confidence in one’s own ability, worth, or fitness; timid; shy

17. earnest – serious in intention, purpose, or effort; sincerely zealous

18. ebullient – overflowing with fervor, enthusiasm, or excitement high-spirited

19. facetious – not meant to be taken seriously or literally; amusing; humorous

20. farcical – absurd; humorous; highly improbable

21. haughty – proud, snobbish, arrogant

22. ludicrous – causing laughter because of absurdity; ridiculous; laughable

23. obdurate – unmoved by persuasion, pity or tender feelings; stubborn

24. pedantic - overly concerned with minute details

25. vitriolic – filled with bitter criticism or malice