



S.O.A.P.S. Tone

In any piece of text, there are specific elements that demonstrate the arguments and intent of an author. These elements will help you to analyze and break down the Shakespearean sonnets.

Subject: What is the topic?

Occasion: What is the immediate occasion for writing the piece? What is the impetus for writing about this topic at this time?

Audience: To whom is she/he addressing the piece?

Purpose: What does the writer want to convince the reader to believe—or persuade the reader to do?

Speaker: Who is the writer? What do you know about the writer from this piece of writing?

Tone: What is the writer's attitude about the topic? If the writer were reading the piece aloud, what tone of voice would he/she use to convey that attitude?





Adapted from "Facing History and Ourselves," www.facing.org