

Guidelines for RC Tones

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Possible tone	Meaning of the word
Acerbic	Harsh/ severe; bitter
Aggressive	Forceful; tending towards unprovoked offensiveness
Angry/indignant	
Apathetic	Emotionless; not interested/ concerned; indifferent; unresponsive
Apologetic	Expressing remorse, regret, sorrow for having failed, injured, insulted or wronged another
Belligerent	Aggressively hostile; bellicose
Biased	Favouring one thing/person/group over another for personal reasons.
Caustic	Biting; acerbic
Commiserating	Feeling/ expressing sorrow for; empathizing with; pity
Condescending	Patronizing; showing/implying patronising descent from dignity/ superiority
Contemptuous	Expressing contempt/ disdain
Cynical	displaying a belief that people are always self-seeking and never altruistic in their actions
Derisive	Unkind and displaying contempt
Disparaging	Speak slightly; depreciating; belittling
Dogmatic	Asserting opinions in an arrogant manner; imperious; dictatorial
Emotional	Easily affected by feelings actuated by experiencing love, hate, fear and the like
Ethical	Dealing with principles of morality; honest; righteous
Euphemistic	Substitution of mild, indirect or vague expression for one thought to be offensive, harsh or blunt
Grandiose	More complicated/ elaborated than necessary; pompous
Humanistic	Evinced keen interest in human affairs, nature, welfare, values
Humorous	Funny and amusing
Introspective	Consider one's own internal state of feelings
Incendiary	Causing strong feelings
Laudatory	Praising; extolling; applauding
Motivating	Impelling; inciting
Obsequious	Fawning; showing servile complaisance; flattering; deferent
Pedestrian	Lacking vitality, imagination, distinction
Populist	Egalitarian; pertaining to the characteristics of common people/ working class
Provocative	Inciting; stimulating; irritating; vexing
Romantic	Fanciful; impractical; unrealistic; extravagant; exaggerated
Sarcastic	Harsh, bitter derision; taunting; sneering; cutting remarks
Satirical	Ironical; taunting; human folly held up to scorn/ derision/ ridicule
Speculative	Theoretical rather than practical; thoughtful; reflective; hypothetical
Technical	Using terminology or treating subject matter in a manner peculiar to a particular field, as a writer or a book
Vitriolic	Full of anger and hatred
Vituperative	Cruel and angry criticism