LESSON 3

TONE AND MOOD:

PAINTING EMOTIONS WITH WORDS





Poetry conveys emotions and atmosphere through tone, which reflects the poet's feelings, and mood, which shapes the reader's experience. By analyzing word choice, imagery, and rhythm, we can uncover the deeper emotions behind a poem's message. Understanding these elements helps us connect more deeply with poetry and express our emotions more effectively in writing.

Tone: This is the poet's emotion when writing the poem. Are they happy? Sad? Hopeful? Mood: This is how the poem makes you feel.

For example, in this kundiman line:

"My heart longs for the warmth of your smile, Even if it's far away by many a mile."

The tone is loving and hopeful because the poet expresses admiration. The mood might make the reader feel peaceful or wistful, imagining someone they miss.



Where the Heart Is: Writing Poetry with Emotion and Imagery

Instructions:

- Think of a place that holds deep emotional significance for you (e.g., hometown, school, vacation spot).
- Write a 4–6-line poem that captures your personal connection to that place.
- Use descriptive language to paint a vivid picture of your chosen place. Incorporate imagery to engage the reader's senses—what do you see, hear, smell, or feel? Ensure that your words reflect a specific tone and mood (e.g., nostalgic, peaceful, joyful, melancholic).
- After writing, share your poem with your group and discuss:
 - * What tone and mood were intended?
 - * How do the words and imagery contribute to the overall effect?

Optional Task (Bonus Points):

- Use Canva, Google Slides, or any other creative platform to visually enhance your poem with images, typography, or design elements that support its tone and mood.
- Submit your final output on Google Classroom under the assigned activity.

With a clear grasp of tone and mood in poetry, let's now bring these elements to life through an engaging activity!

Extend Your Learning!

Read this simplified English version of José Rizal's Mi Último Adiós (My Last Farewell):

Mi Último Adiós (My Last Farewell)

Farewell, dear land, beloved Philippines, The sun sets on my life's final dreams. I gladly die for you to see you free, To give you joy and sovereignty¹.

I die that the dawn of freedom may rise, Bathed in my blood under your skies. Let it soak the fields, moisten² the plains, Where my love for you forever remains.

I'll rest in peace when your banner soars, Over your hills, your seas, your shores. If my grave be unmarked, let it be so, For I'll live in your breeze, your fields, your glow.

In the songs of birds, the rustle³ of leaves, In the gentle waves and evening eves, You'll find me there, in nature's grace, My soul will linger⁴ in this cherished place.

Love my homeland, I ask of you, Cherish her colors, her skies so blue. Fight for her freedom, honor her name, Keep her shining with undying flame.

Farewell, dear friends, my love, my home, I leave my dreams where your hearts may roam. In death, my love for you shall stay, Forever loyal till the end of day.

"Mi Último Adios" is a lyric poem, specifically an elegy.

Key Concepts Unveiled!

An elegy is a poem or piece of writing that expresses sadness and reflects on death or loss. It's often used to honor someone who has died. In this case, Rizal's poem expresses his love for his homeland and his sacrifice for its freedom.



- **Sovereignty** The power or right of a country or person to rule themselves without being controlled by others.
- ²Moisten To make something slightly wet.
- ³Rustle A soft, light sound, like leaves or paper moving.
- *Linger- To stay in a place longer than necessary because you don't want to leave.

Unveiling the Poet's Heart

Instructions:

- 1. Read "Mi Último Adiós" by José Rizal aloud as a class.
- 2. Break into small groups. Each group will analyze specific stanzas, focusing on:
 - * The poet's emotions (tone): How does Rizal express his love for his country?
 - * The atmosphere (mood): How does the poem make the reader feel?
- 3. Discuss the following guide questions with your group:
 - *What words or phrases in your assigned stanza show the poet's love for his homeland?
 - *How do these words make you feel as a reader?
 - *How do the poet's emotions connect to the values of freedom, sacrifice, and patriotism?
- 4. Write your answers on paper, take a clear picture, upload them to Google Classroom or directly on Google Docs or MS Word, and submit them online.
- 5. Each group will present their analysis to the class.