“A SOAPSTone” for Fiction

A:

* Author Information

S:

* Speaker

O:

* Larger Occasion
* Immediate Occasion

A:

* Audience

P:

* Purpose

S:

* Subject

Tone

Tips on the order of completion

1. Subject:

* Choose the three most important nouns
* Differ the ideas and topic (ex. NOT “children,” “kid,” Childhood”)
* Hint: Recurring words
* Try to find first use in work and include page numbers

1. Speaker (Not the Author):

* Link to subject(s)
* Point of view
* Facts relevant to the piece

1. Author Information:

* Link to the subject(s) of the piece
* Ask what led him/her to write this or influence the piece
* Research info about the author

1. Larger Occasion:

* Link to subject(s)
* Time period of the piece = publication date
* Research info
* Information beforehand is relevant but not afterwards. (Ex. Cannot use Obama’s election for an event in the 1990s)
* Cultural changes, statistics, specific facts, and what was going on in the country or setting during the time of the piece
* Usually outside information

1. Immediate Occasion:

* Link to subject(s)
* What happens in the piece
* Think about main conflicts or changes throughout the piece
* This section provides background information for your writing

1. Tone:

* Use strong word choice/descriptive tone words
* Two short quotes as proof
* Provide page numbers
* Significant tone that encompasses the piece and differs throughout. (Ex. Do not use gloomy, sad, and morose)

1. Audience:

* Who does the author want to influence?
* DO IN THE ORDER: Audience #1, Purpose #1, Audience #2, Purpose #2…
* Be Specific: ex: Audience #1: Nervous Parents, Audience #2: naïve young people

1. Purpose:

* What does the author want to audiences to do or think?
* Link to subject(s)
* Use the word “to” (Ex. **to** convince, **to** encourage)

Ultimately, use the word “to” at least twice (Ex. The author writes **to** nervous parents (Audience #1) **to** explain that they need not worry about their young children (Purpose #1)