

## **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION # 7** (For Eighth Grade)

### **STYLE**

Style refers to a particular, distinctive, or characteristic mode of execution in any form of art, work, or living.

In fiction, style is the manner in which the author tells the story. It is also the arrangement of words in a manner which at once expresses the individuality of the author and the idea or intent in his mind.

Along with plot, character, theme, and setting, style is considered one of the fundamental components of fiction.

So, when analyzing an author's style, we need to consider:

1. point-of-view,
2. formal or informal writing,
3. organization/structure of text,
4. level of complexity in the writing, and
5. overall *tone*.
6. By using these features in writing, different meanings of the content (what the story/text is about) are shown to the audience.

Components of style include:

- Tone
- Mood
- Word choice
- Imagery
- Voice
- POV
- And other elements

These components will reveal his/her style.

## IMPORTANT ELEMENTS

The three most important elements the author uses to express style are: Word choice, tone, and mood.

1. Word choice - With every story there is a great character, a great location, and a great plot. But all those can be lost with the use of words that simply will not work! The best words to use in any kind of writing, both creative and even for essays are words that add meaning, tone, and style to your writing.
2. Tone - Tone is the attitude a writer takes towards a subject or character: serious, humorous, sarcastic, ironic, satirical, tongue-in-cheek, solemn, objective.
3. Mood - A term used synonymously with atmosphere to indicate in a literary work the prevailing feeling or frame of mind, especially at the start of a play, poem or novel, creating a sense of expectation about what is to follow.

## WRITING WITH STYLE

Can a style ever be good or bad, correct or incorrect--or is it more a matter of taste? Is style a kind of decorative sprinkle that's *added* to a piece of writing--or is it instead an essential ingredient of the writing? Here, under four headings, are some of the diverse ways in which writers have responded to these questions.

- Is Practical

"People think that I can teach them style. What stuff it all is! Have something to say, and say it as clearly as you can. That is the only secret of style."(Matthew Arnold)

- Is the Dress of Thoughts

"A man's style should be like his dress. It should be as unobtrusive and should attract as little attention as possible."(C. E. M. Joad)

- Is Point of View

"Style is the perfection of a point of view."(Richard Eberhart)

- Is Substance

"Style is not something applied. It is something that permeates. It is of the nature of that in which it is found, whether the poem, the manner of a god, the bearing of a man. It is not a dress."(Wallace Stevens)

### **Practice Exercises**

1. Define style?
2. Which are the three essential elements of style?
3. What four important things are said about style?

### **References**

- <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/style>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Style\\_\(fiction\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Style_(fiction))
- [http://www.ehow.co.uk/video\\_4993778\\_identify-narrative-style-literature.html](http://www.ehow.co.uk/video_4993778_identify-narrative-style-literature.html)