**Vocabulary List #4**

(Test on Friday, November 3rd)

1. **Tone**—the writer’s or speaker’s **attitude** toward his or her subject*.*

*“Did Somebody Smell a Rat” has a humorous tone.*

1. **Mood—**a **feeling** that a literary work gives to readers.

*The mood of “Did Somebody Smell a Rat” is silly.*

3. **Theme**—a statement that sums up a message or moral the author is showing

in a work of literature*.*

*Common themes include: Love conquers all; good will always triumph over*

*evil; things aren’t always as they seem, etc.*

4. **Denotation—**the dictionary meaning of a word or a group of words; the

literal meaning

*For example: a snake means "any of numerous scaly, legless, sometimes venomous reptiles”*

5. **Connotation—**refers to the associations that are connected to a certain

word or the emotional suggestions related to that word.

*For example: a snake could symbolize danger, evil or sin depending on how it was being used in a piece of writing.*

**Note:** *Tone, mood, denotation and connotation are closely tied together—they act in relationship to one another. To be an advanced reader, you must understand the importance of this relationship.*