# “Televising Humiliation” by Adam Cohen

What is the thesis of this essay? As a group, state it in your own words.

Cohen doesn’t define the term “Humiliation Television” outright; rather he relies on examples to provide illustrations. Locate his examples and as a group create a definition.

“Tone” is a writer’s emotional stance or attitude toward his or her subject. Since we can’t hear the writer’s voice, tone is conveyed through word choice and sentencing. Examples of tone include sarcastic, authoritarian, condescending, impersonal, reserved, emotional, humorous, Impersonal, serious, respectful—you get the idea.

Given this definition, describe Cohen’s tone and locate examples that support your description.

“Social experiment: Know thy neighbor” by Peter Lovenheim

What is the thesis of this essay? Is it stated or implied? If stated, where? As a group, try to restate Lovenheim’s thesis in your own words.

Why did Lovenheim write this essay? What was his purpose?

What is Lovenheim’s tone?—his attitude toward his subject? Locate some examples that support your answer.

If the author had asked you whether he could sleep over at your house, what would have been your answer—pole the group and record each response.

“How Ignorant Are Americans?” by Andrew Romono

What’s Romono’s thesis? As a group, develop a concise statement of his purpose.

According to Romano, where does American ignorance come from? Do you as a group agree?

Who does Romono believe is most to blame?

For what audience is Romono writing? What is his tone or attitude toward his subject and readers? As a group describe it.

As a group, share where you get most of your news about the world. Please be specific about your sources of information and you effort to get that information.

“Boys Mow Lawns, Girls Do Dishes”

How does Shellenbarger feel about the division of labor in American households? How can you tell? State her feelings in a sentence or two.

Was Shellenbarger aware of the “gender gap” before she wrote this article? Were each of you? Note each member’s response.

What was each member’s experience growing up? Did the household encourage or discourage gender roles. List a few examples.

According to the selection, why isn’t housework a priority anymore?

What is Shellenbarger’s thesis? Can you located it or state it in a sentence?