Hi Everyone,

Just did a great communication activity with my students on "Tone of Voice". I cut apart the positive/negative slips and put them in a can. Students randomly selected a slip and found their partner. Students had to set the stage or come up with a scenario that they'd actually have to use the phrase. The negative had to say it in a tone of voice that was mean, rude, sarcastic, mouthy or sassy. The positive had to say the statement in a tone of voice that was effective and would come across effectively.

I gave students the example of two children arguing over a toy and one child steals the toy from the other causing the second child to cry. First child gets put on timeout and must apologize. I show them the difference between a negative, rude "sorry" versus a sincere "I'm sorry".

I gave them about 5 minutes to come up with a scenario and practice and they demonstrated their examples. The students watching determined if they came across effectively in their positive or negative example.

Attached are the phrases and I apologize that they did not copy clearly but you can make them out.

It was a great activity, very interactive and the students really got into them.

**Kimberley Graybill**

**The Tone of Voice**

It’s not so much what you say   
As the manner in which you say it;   
It’s not so much the language you use   
As the tone in which you convey it;   
*“Come here!”* I sharply said,   
And the child cowered and wept.   
“Come here,” I said –   
He looked and smiled   
And straight to my lap he crept.   
Words may be mild and fair   
And the tone may pierce like a dart;   
Words may be soft as the summer air   
But the tone may break my heart;   
For words come from the mind   
Grow by study and art –   
But tone leaps from the inner self   
Revealing the state of the heart.   
Whether you know it or not,   
Whether you mean or care,   
Gentleness, kindness, love, and hate,   
Envy, anger, are there.   
Then, would you quarrels avoid   
And peace and love rejoice?   
Keep anger not only out of your words –   
Keep it out of your voice.

~Author Unknown



