**TWIST Method**

**T**one

**W**ord choice

**I**magery and detail

**S**tyle

**T**heme

Using the TWIST method may be helpful when you are asked to create a thesis in response to a prompt that refers to a selection of prose or poetry. Consider the following questions:

* What is the author’s **tone**? ***Tone*** is the attitude the author or speaker takes toward the subject.
* What particular **word choice** may be indicative of the author’s feelings? **Word choice or diction** are terms referring to the specific words or clusters of words in the selection that are loaded with connotation, associations, or emotional impact.
* Is there any specific **imagery** or use of **detail** that indicates the author’s attitude or evokes a particular reaction from the reader? **Imagery** is a term referring to sense impressions created by the writer: images may be those of sound, touch, smell, taste, or sight. **Detail** refers to facts or objects.
* Does the author demonstrate any characteristic **style** that may help with interpretation? **Style** is a term referring to the author’s characteristic use of language and the tools of a writer: figurative language, point of view, literary techniques, etc.
* What **theme** does the author present in his/her passage or poem? **Theme** concerns the meaning of the passage, the insight, both particular and universal, that an author has to offer about life itself and has to do with the overall effect of or impact of a piece of writing. It is the core of the work, its reason for being.