

Literary Elements in “The Cask of Amontillado”

Short Stories

Tone & Mood

Tone

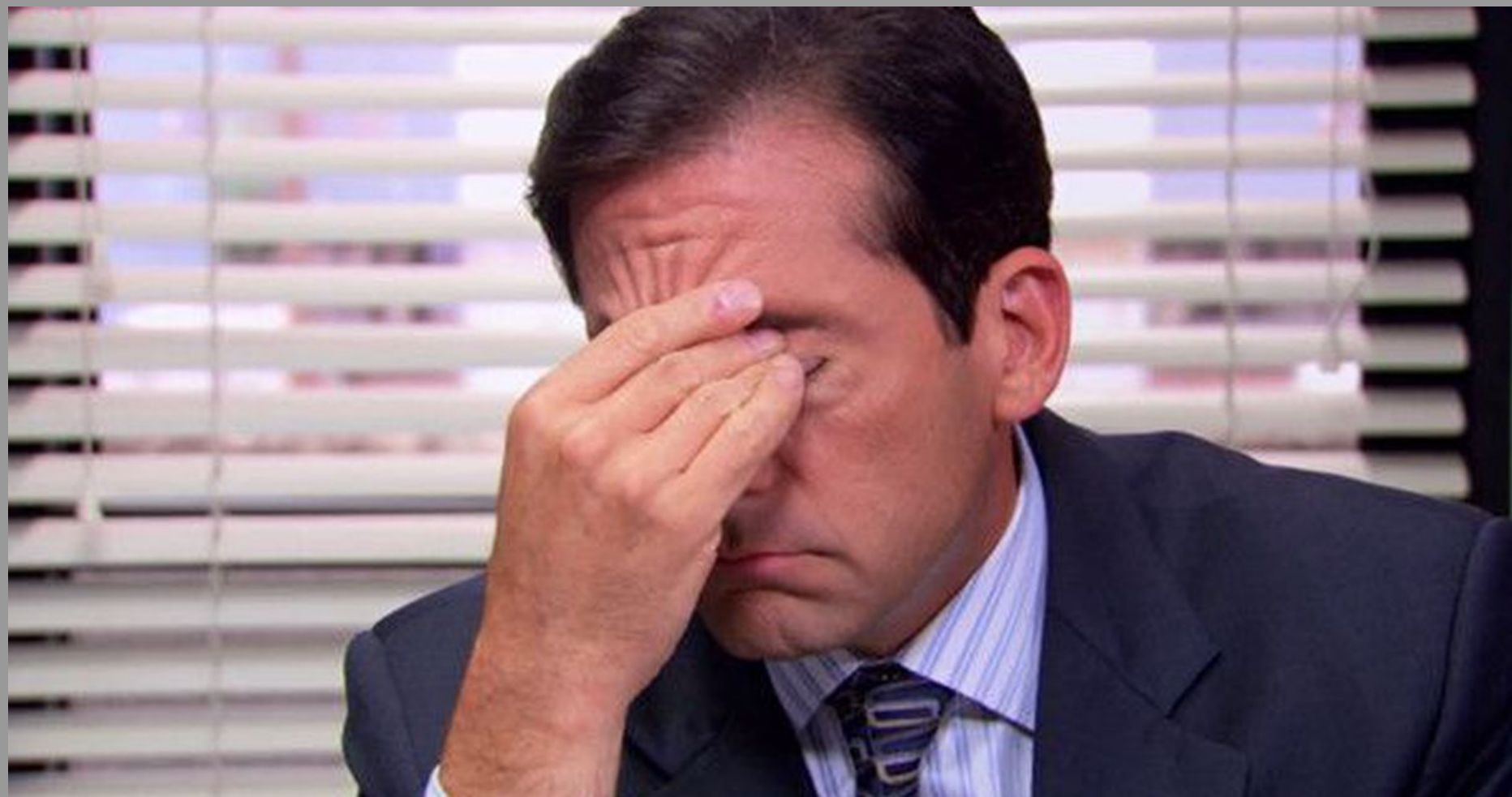
Tone: Style or manner or expression in speech or writing. In other words, tone refers to the way the characters in the story speak.

Some adjectives to describe TONE: Formal, informal, serious, humorous, amused, angry, playful, neutral, satirical, gloomy, conciliatory, sad, resigned, cheerful, ironic, clear, detailed, imploring, suspicious, witty...

Mood

Mood: Atmosphere, state of mind. Basically, mood references the environment in which a story takes place.

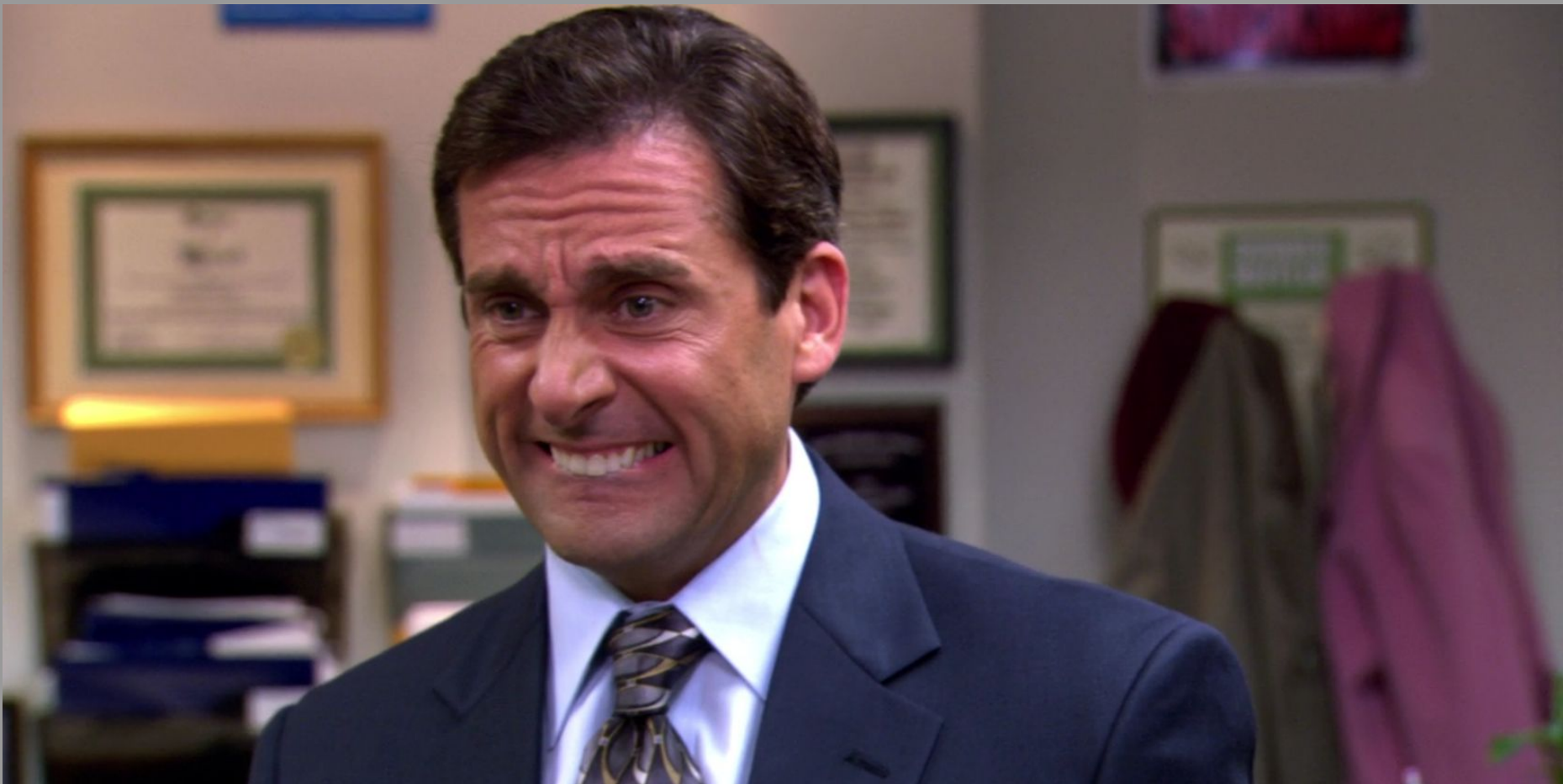
Some adjectives to describe MOOD: Fictional, imaginary, fanciful, idealistic, romantic, realistic, optimistic, pessimistic, gloomy, mournful, sorrowful...

















Foreshadowing & Flashback

The Main Difference

Flashback and Foreshadowing are literary devices that **relate to time**.

The main difference between flashback and foreshadowing is that flashback refers to the **past** whereas foreshadowing refers to the **future**.

Flashback

- A flashback interrupts the chronological sequence of the plot in order to recall an earlier happening.
- This literary element is commonly used by authors to:
 - provide background details of the characters
 - share a memory or a past experience with the audience
 - help the readers understand different motivations of the characters
 - create tension in the story

* For example, imagine a story where a man is afraid of heights; there might be a flashback to the incident that made him afraid of heights.

Foreshadowing

- Foreshadowing is a literary element in which the author gives hints and clues about the events that are going to take place in the story.
 - Foreshadowing is used by writers to:
 - prepare the readers for some shocking twist in the story
 - shift the mood of the story
 - strengthen the sense of mystery in the story
- * Foreshadowing is generally subtle, and the readers won't be able to grasp it in the first reading.





Symbolism

Symbolism

- Symbolism is the use of symbols to signify ideas different from their literal sense.
- Symbolism can take different forms:
 - an object
 - an action
 - an event
 - a word

* Symbols do shift their meanings depending on the context they are used in. “A chain,” for example, may stand for “union” as well as “imprisonment”. Thus, symbolic meaning of an object or an action is understood by when, where, and how it is used. It also depends on who reads the work.







