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Thomas Gray's (1716-71) “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” (1751), is a poem filled with deep feelings and reflections. It takes readers to a quiet, peaceful village graveyard. Here, the poet talks about life, death, and the forgotten lives of simple people. The mood and tone of the poem beautifully show these thoughts.

Mood- Reflective and Somber: The poem has a reflective mood. The poet thinks deeply about the lives of the people buried in the churchyard. He wonders about their simple lives and their unfulfilled dreams. The setting of the graveyard, the quiet evening, and the mention of death create a somber mood. Words like "darkness," "solitary reign," and "mould'ring heap" make the atmosphere calm but sad. The mood helps readers think about their own lives and the importance of remembering others.

Tone- Respectful and Melancholic: The tone of the poem is respectful. The poet honors the lives of the poor villagers who rest in the graveyard. He talks about them with great care and shows their quiet dignity. At the same time, the tone is melancholic. The poet feels sad about how these lives went unnoticed by the world. However, he also reminds readers that all people, rich or poor, must face death.

This respectful and melancholic tone makes the poem touching and thoughtful. The mood and tone together make the poem timeless and powerful.