

# Author's Purpose

## Part I





WHY?





- Persuade

convince

- Inform

give facts

- Entertain

fiction

- Compare

two or more

- Express

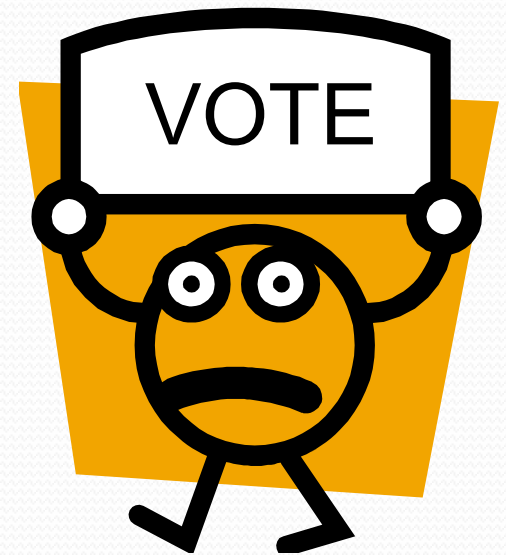
feelings

# Persuade

Written convince you to change your thinking, spend money, support a cause, or offer a solution to a problem

## Examples

- Advertisements/Commercials
- Political Speeches
- Church sermons or literature
- Opinion Editorials
- Movie or book reviews



# Inform

Written to give information or describe something. Authors use facts and reasons to get the point across.

## Examples

- Textbooks
- News articles
- Informational Brochures
- Encyclopedias
- Schedules, charts, instructions

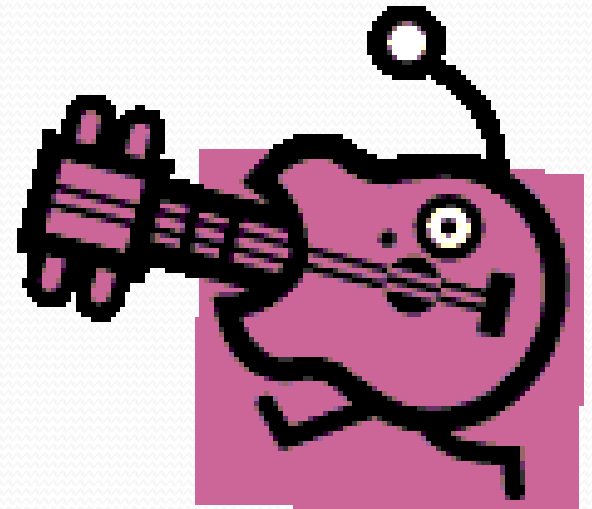


# Entertain

Written to interest the reader, or appeal to emotions such as pleasure, sadness, anger, or humor.

## Examples

- Fiction books and other stories
- Plays and movies
- Comic strips
- Video games
- Sports articles or programs



# Compare

Examines the way two or more things are alike or different. Can have a secondary purpose to either inform or persuade.

## Examples

- Comparison essays
- Political analysis
- Consumer or product reports



# Express

Written to share a writer's feelings or express opinions.

## Examples

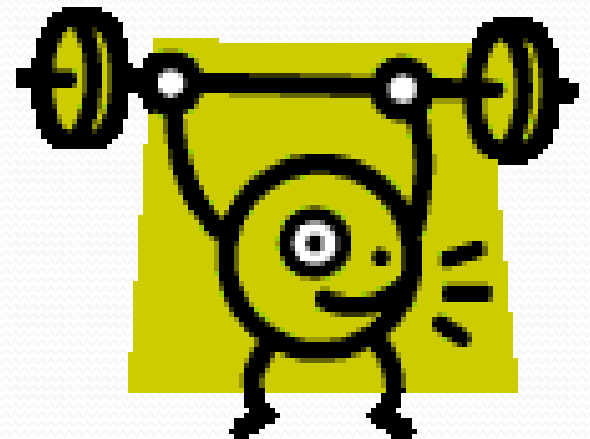
- Poetry
- Songs
- Blogs
- Love letters
- Journals and diaries
- Letters to the editor





# Practice Session

Identify the author's purpose for each of the following types of text.



# What is the Purpose?

- A song about a father's joy and love for his new baby girl.
- A political speech recommending that you support a tax increase.
- A poster in the hall that encourages students to say no to drugs.
- A pamphlet in a doctor's office that explains the disease diabetes.
- A letter explaining the differences between two types of medical insurance.

# Author's Purpose

## Part II



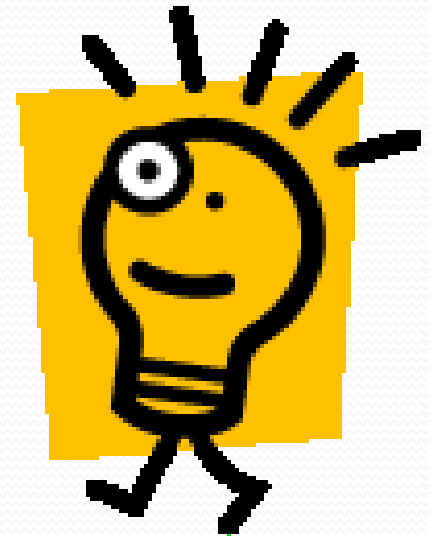
# Question Stems

- The purpose...
- What is the most likely reason the author wrote ...
- ...author probably wrote to...
- Why do you think the author choose...
- How do you think the author would feel about...
- Why do you think the author decided to...
- Why does the author begin (end) the story with...

# Answer Choices

The types of author's purposes are often revealed in the answer choices. Learning key words will help identify the purpose each answer choice represents.

- A) To solve the problem...
- B) To encourage...
- C) To describe...
- D) To show...





## Example 1

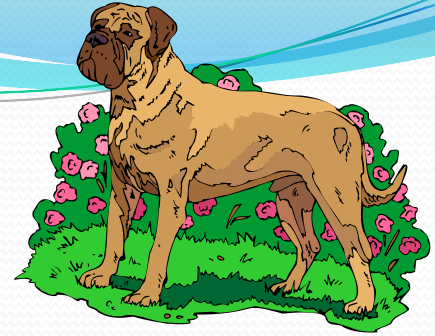
- What is the most likely reason the author wrote "Picture This"?
  - A) to persuade readers to learn photography
  - B) to share the benefits of a career in photography
  - C) to explain how photographic film captures an image
  - D) to encourage readers to develop their own film



## Example 2

- Source #1 and Source #2 are written on the same topic. What was the purpose of each passage? Were the purposes of the passages the same? Did the articles achieve their purposes? Use text evidence to support your answer.

## Example 3



- Which detail supports the author's purpose for writing this selection?
- A) Dog owners spend as much as \$11,000 on their dogs in their lifetime
- B) Dogs in other countries live in packs
- C) There are more than 65 million pet dogs in the U.S.
- D) People think that their dogs need only love from them



## Example 4



- This article would most likely be found in a...
  - A) Textbook about animal behavior.
  - B) Popular science or health magazine.
  - C) Newspapers local news section.
  - D) Professional journal for veterinarians.

# Key Words

## Persuade

Encourage

Prove

Sell

Convert

Assure

Influence

Convince

Urge

Inspire



# Key Words

## Inform

Show

Educate

Explain

Give information

Illustrate

Understand

Describe

Discuss

Teach



# Key Words

## Entertain

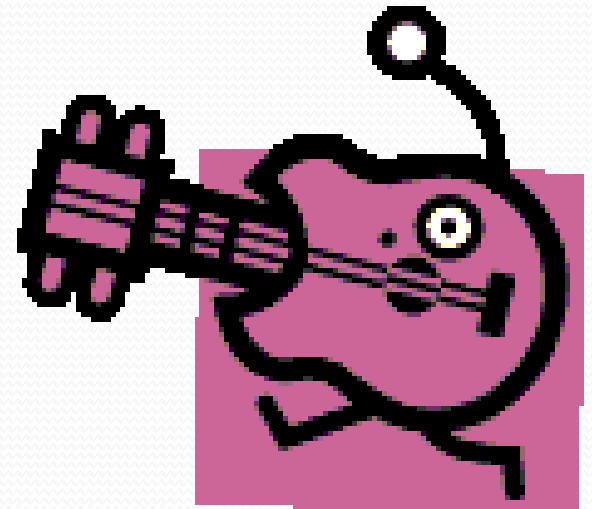
Tell

Share an experience

Relate

Provide details

Create



# Key Words

Compare

Contrast

Both

Alike/Different



# Key Words

Express

Share

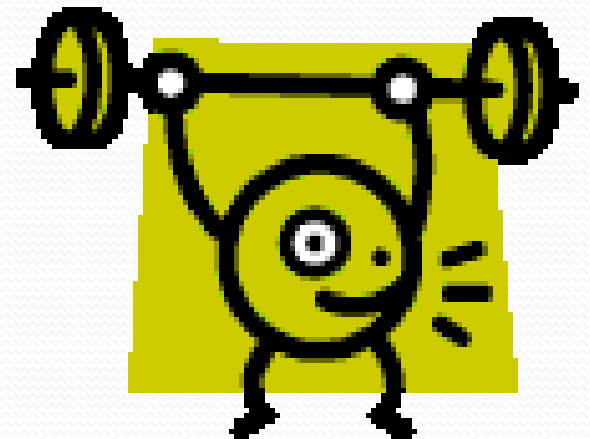
Feelings

Emotions



# Practice Session

Identify the key words in the answer choices to each question. Explain which author's purpose is indicated by that key word.



• You can tell from the first paragraph that this excerpt comes from a biography because the author...

A) explains what Latimer thought and felt

B) encourages readers to choose careers that use their talents

C) creates suspense about a fictional character.

D) uses stanzas and rhyming words to express an idea.



• What is the most likely reason the author wrote the article?

- A) To convince the reader to purchase a meerkat for a pet.
- B) To compare the meerkats ability to hunting for food to that of the domestic cat.
- C) To describe the characteristics of the meerkat.
- D) To discuss the importance of cooperation for meerkats and humans.



- The author probably wrote this selection to...

A) educate pet owners about the best ways to care for their pets

B) urge pet owners to make regular visits to their vet

C) describe the process of adopting a pet

D) influence readers to adopt pets from shelters



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