



## AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Author's Purpose is the reason why the text was written. It can be the main purpose for the selection or the author's reasons for including elements within the text.

### TIPS:

- Thinking about an author's main reason for writing helps readers set a purpose for reading a selection.
- Authors may use different text structures depending on their purpose.
- Some authors write to entertain. They tell stories about characters and settings that are fun to read about. They often use sequence to tell story events in order.
- Authors who write mainly to teach, inform, or explain give readers facts about a topic. This is often used in nonfiction writing. Authors may use main idea and details to tell the information.
- Authors who write to persuade give opinions about their subjects. They may ask or try to convince readers to do or think a certain way. They give reasons and details to support their opinion. This is often found in speeches, advertisements, and letters to editors.
- Recognizing the author's purpose can help readers understand the author's perspective – how the author feels about the subject.

## AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

### QUESTION STEMS:

- Why did the author write this story?
- What is the author's main purpose for writing this article?
- This passage was written mainly to ...
- In the last paragraph, why did the author end the passage with \_\_\_?
- What does the author mean when he/she writes \_\_\_?
- What is the author's MOST likely reason for \_\_\_?
- With which of the following statements would the author MOST likely agree?
- In order to show readers that \_\_\_\_, the author includes \_\_\_\_.
- The MOST likely reason the author \_\_\_\_, was...
- The author says "\_\_\_" to show that...
- Why does the author \_\_\_?
- What was the author's purpose in \_\_\_\_?
- What is the purpose of the first heading? (illustration, etc.)

### ANSWER STEMS:

- To tell about...
- To explain...
- To show how to...
- To convince (persuade)the reader to...
- To encourage readers to...
- To give information about...
- To describe ...
- To teach...
- To give an example of...
- To introduce readers to...
- To reveal...
- To add suspense...