




Active Reader Chart: Determining the Author's Purpose for Writing

An author's purpose can be to entertain, to inform, or to persuade. Sometimes an author can have more than one purpose.

<p>Entertain</p> 	<p>An author can entertain by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making something funny• Using words that paint a picture in our mind• Adding suspense to the writing• Including lots of feelings• Including fantasy• Making the characters seem real• Adding some surprises
<p>Inform</p> 	<p>An author can inform by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teaching us something new about a topic• Including interesting details• Including numbers, dates, and examples• Giving us a lot of details about one thing• Giving us different kinds of information• Writing the information as an article, story or a poem• Including pictures or other graphics to help us understand the information.
<p>Persuade</p> 	<p>An author can persuade by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Giving us information that makes something seem really important right now!• Giving us convincing facts and details• Getting someone famous to agree with him or her• Giving us information about only one side of the story• Making the other side of the story sound like a bad idea• Using power words like <i>amazing, free, new, you, instantly</i>

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