



Author's purpose

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

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An author's **purpose** is the reason for writing something.

- Sometimes the **purpose** is *to give us information*.
- Sometimes the **purpose** is *to convince us to believe or do something*.
- Sometimes the **purpose** is *to surprise us or make us laugh*.

Sometimes an author has *more than one purpose* for writing.

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Here are some short sections of different kinds of writing. Think about the author's **purpose** for writing each one.

When a light beam hits an object, such as tree leaves or an apple, the color of the object affects the smaller color beams inside the entire light beam. The green leaves absorb all of the color beams except green. Only the green beam is reflected back, so our eyes see the leaves as green. The apple absorbs all of the color beams except red. Only the red beam is reflected back, so our eyes see the apple as red.

1. What is the author's purpose for writing? (There may be more than one correct answer.)
 - A. to give us information
 - B. to convince us to believe or do something
 - C. to surprise us or make us laugh

The Hare was almost to the finish line. Suddenly, it struck him how foolish he looked running a race with a Tortoise who was nowhere in sight. He sat down. Some say he slept. The Tortoise won. The story has a moral, of course: "Slow and steady wins the race."

2. What is the author's purpose for writing? (There may be more than one correct answer.)
- A. to give us information
 - B. to convince us to believe or do something
 - C. to surprise us or make us laugh

One rainy morning, Andi sees a cute little white dog sitting on Aunt Alice's porch to keep dry. She picks up the little dog and pets it. She wishes she could keep it. When she comes home from school that day and goes to her closet, there on the floor is the little white dog. And three tiny puppies!

3. What is the author's purpose for writing? (There may be more than one correct answer.)
- A. to give us information
 - B. to convince us to believe or do something
 - C. to surprise us or make us laugh

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4. What is another example of something written to give us information?

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5. What is another example of something to convince us to believe or do something?

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6. What is another example of something written to surprise us or make us laugh?

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## Answer Key

1. A
2. B and/or C
3. C
- 4-6 Accept any reasonable responses.