

Name: _____

Author's Purpose Activity

Directions: Read the descriptions of each item and determine the author's main purpose (to entertain, persuade, or inform). Then, in a sentence or two, explain your answer.

1. A story about a family trying to stick together and survive through the Great Depression in the Midwest in the 1930s

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

2. A section in a history book describing the conditions and causes of the Great Depression in the Midwest in the 1930s

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

3. An instructional booklet describing how to operate a smart phone

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

4. An article where the author argues that an iPhone is better than an Android phone

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

5. A poem about why the iPhone is the greatest consumer electronic device ever made

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

6. The story of a young athlete who takes steroids and his life and future fall apart

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

7. A medical report describing the effects of steroids on the human body

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

8. A speech written by a professional athlete listing the negative effects of steroids and urging young athletes to not use steroids

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

9. A booklet containing the school rules and the consequences for violating those rules

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

10. A story written about a young boy who moves to a new school and is bullied, but he gains self-confidence by joining a sports team and learns to stand up for himself.

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

Name: _____

Author's Purpose Activity 2

Directions: Read the descriptions of each item and determine the author's purpose (to entertain, persuade, or inform). Then, in a sentence or two, explain your answer.

1. A pamphlet urging people not to eat animals or use products made from animals or animal suffering because the author thinks that is cruel and unnecessary

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

2. A book of over 1,000 knock-knock jokes

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

3. A cook book containing recipes for making cakes, cookies, and other desserts

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

4. The story of a young woman who, after the death of her grandfather, quit her job in the business world and returned home to help her aging grandmother

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

5. A politician's speech about how homes should be provided to families who cannot afford them

Author's Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

6. A poem about a “packrat,” a person who refuses to throw things away, even things that most people would consider garbage

Author’s Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

7. An article comparing and contrasting American and Swedish health care systems

Author’s Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

8. The Shakespearean tragedy Romeo and Juliet, where two young lovers are forbidden from seeing one another due to a centuries old blood feud between their two families

Author’s Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

9. A young girl’s note to her parents giving reasons why they should buy a puppy

Author’s Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.

10. A website describing a local dog leash ordinance, detailing its history and the penalties for walking around with one’s dog unleashed

Author’s Purpose: _____

Explain Your Answer:

Write a sentence or two.