

Understanding Author's Purpose

Determine the author's purpose for each of the following. Use inform, persuade, or entertain.

1. **HAMSTERS FOR SALE:** Braxton Pet Store, Northwood Mall: We have a large selection of hamsters for sale this week. They are interesting pets and you will enjoy having one. They are only \$17.99 this week. Come and buy yours today!

What is the author's purpose? _____
How do you know? _____

2. Calligraphy is a form of handwriting. A special pen must be used. Letters are formed using up and down strokes. Old documents are usually written in this form. Diplomas, certificates, and other awards are written in calligraphy. It is an interesting form of handwriting.

What is the author's purpose? _____
How do you know? _____

3. Andres and his brother, Osvaldo, were playing with the water hose outside one day. Osvaldo was hiding from Andres so he wouldn't squirt him with the water. The back door opened and Andres pointed the water hose toward the door. It was Mom and she was dripping wet!

What is the author's purpose? _____
How do you know? _____

Getting into the Author's Mind

Sample questions that may assist students in getting into the author's mind.

- What is the author trying to say?
- What is the author's message?
- The author said _____, but what does it mean?
- I can connect _____ in the text to _____ (something I read, experienced, or _____)
- How does this information connect with earlier passages in the text?
- Did the author explain this clearly? What is missing?
- Is there anything I need to research to help me understand this better?
- Did the author give me an answer to _____?

Author's Purpose/Point of View FCAT Questions

1. What does the second _____ think will happen when he returns to the forest and _____? (character point of view)
2. Why does the author say that many books and articles have been written about _____? (author's purpose)
3. With which statement would the author of " _____ " most likely agree? (author's point of view)
4. Why does the author compare _____ with other famous monuments around the world? (author's purpose)
5. Why does the author begin the article with a quotation from _____? (author's purpose)
6. What part of _____ career does the author seem to admire the most? (author's point of view)
7. What was the author's main purpose in writing this article? (author's purpose)
8. Why do _____ and _____ write about their stay in _____? (author's purpose)
9. Why do the authors mention _____ in their discussion of the " _____ "? (author's purpose)
10. What is the purpose of the large illustration on page _____? (author's purpose)
11. Which reason BEST tells why the author wrote this story? (author's purpose)
12. What is the author's main purpose for writing _____? (author's purpose)