

# What Do You Think?

## Reading Comprehension

### Instructions:

Read each description of a specific piece of writing. Circle the word that identifies the author's purpose for writing it. Then write a sentence or two explaining why you think that is.

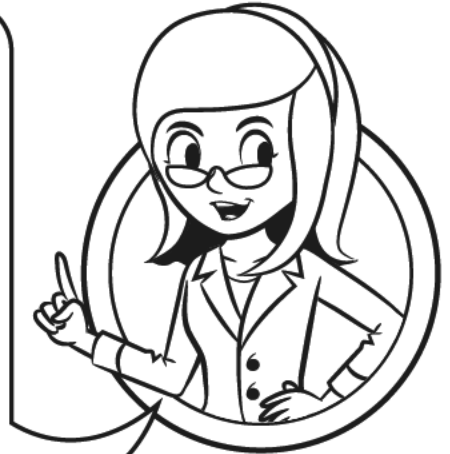
### Helpful Hint:

Authors write for a variety of reasons:


- to persuade the reader to think or feel a certain way
- to inform the reader about a topic
- to entertain the reader with a story

As you read a text, think about the author's reason, or purpose, for writing it. Ask yourself the following questions to help you decide:

- Has the author provided factual information?  
If so, the purpose is to inform.
- Has the author given opinions and facts to get the reader to think a certain way or to encourage the reader to take action?  
If so, the purpose is to persuade.
- Has the author told a story that made you laugh or entertained you in some way?  
If so, the purpose is to entertain.



**What Do You Think?**



1) a fiction book about a young girl traveling across the country with her family  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

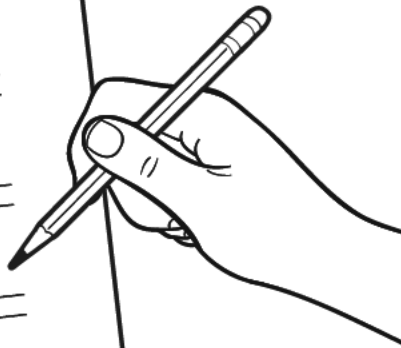
2) a magazine article describing different types of exercise for kids  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3) a letter in a newspaper encouraging people to wear bike helmets  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4) a speech in which a presidential candidate asks people to vote for him  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

5) a fiction book about a family that moved west in the 1800s  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

6) a recipe for chocolate chip cookies  
Author's Purpose:      entertain      persuade      inform  
Why do you think this?  
\_\_\_\_\_



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