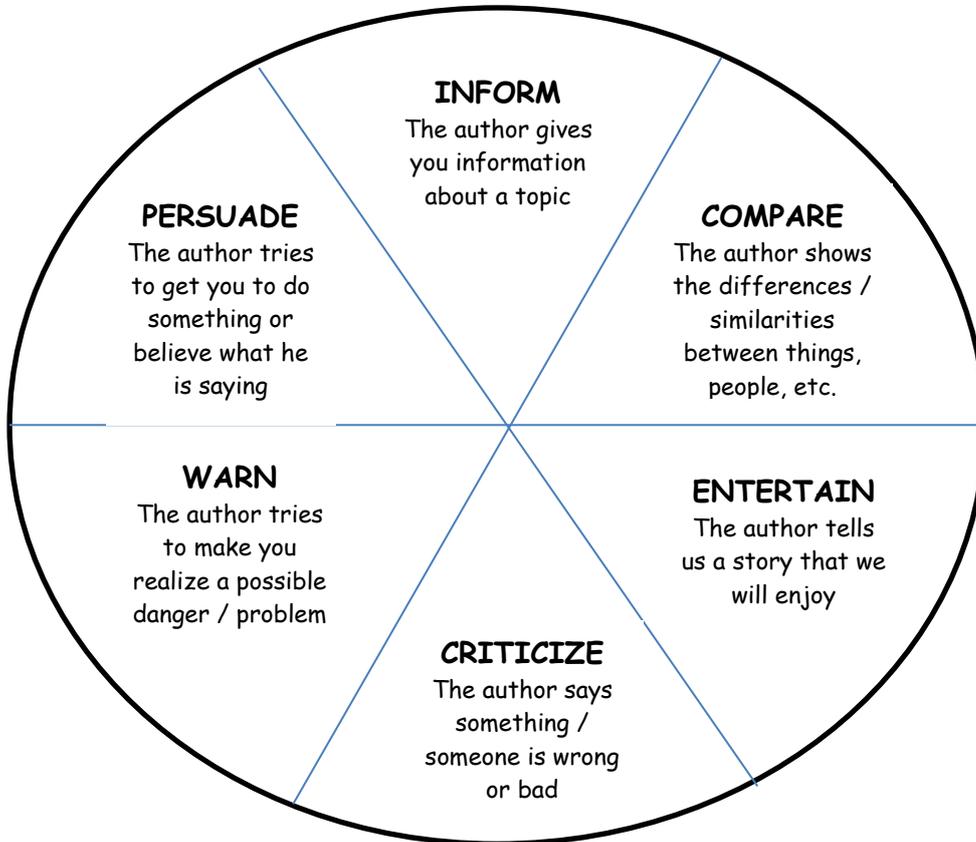


AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

An author writes for many **reasons**. These reasons may change depending on the type of the written piece; however the most common ones can be seen in the following chart. Read the information on it and do the following exercise.

Why did the author write this piece?



Exercise 1: Write the purposes of the authors who write the following pieces and explain why you think so.

Genre	Author's Purpose	Why do you think so?
Cookbooks		
Brochures		
Biographies		
Comic books		
Newspaper columns		
Advertisements		
Novels		

B1 Level Supplementary Reading Material for Author's Purpose and Tone

Exercise 2: Read the following paragraphs and write the author's purpose (persuade, inform, entertain, criticize, warn, or compare) in each of them.

1. It was a glorious morning in Alabama. The sun was shining through the trees. Alan couldn't wait to find his fishing pole and call his friend Sam to go fishing. They had a great time on these early morning fishing trips. They took their dogs with them and the dogs swam in the lake while they were fishing. It was so funny to watch those dogs paddle around the lake.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

2. The Slim-O-Matic will help you lose pounds and inches from your body in a month. Thanks to this amazing machine, you can exercise correctly as it provides a video to show you the proper way to exercise. Pay \$75.99 and begin exercising today.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

3. The Underground Railroad was a secret organization which helped slaves escape to freedom. Many slaves were able to escape using the conductors and station masters. The northern states were free states and slaves were free when they arrived in the north. Secret codes and signals were used to identify the conductors and station masters.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

4. I went to Zebra's Diner yesterday. The seating arrangement inside the restaurant was really poor as customers had to face the walls. I sat at the cleanest table I could find. Fifteen minutes after I sat down, a teenage boy with long, dirty hair finally arrived to take my order. After another 35 minutes, my food arrived, but it was cold and not as delicious as I had hoped. Visiting Zebra's Diner was certainly an experience to remember, but one that I never hope to repeat.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

5. The potential benefits of artificial intelligence (AI) are huge. Success in creating AI would be the biggest event in human history. Unfortunately, it might also be the last. While it's physically possible to create computers more powerful than the human brain, it is certainly not advisable. AI may get so intelligent that it may start continually improving its own design. It may come to a point where AI develops weapons that we cannot even understand, so we may not be able to control it at all.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

6. Judy Glen's amazing Wrinkle Remover cream will make you look younger in thirty days or less. This remarkable cream has special ingredients to make your wrinkles disappear. The cost for a thirty day supply is \$ 25.99. Send your check to P.O.Box 00002, Shelton, CA 74836.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

7. Laura Elizabeth Ingalls Wilder was born on February 7, 1867 in Pepin, Wisconsin to Charles and Caroline Ingalls. She met and married Almanzo James Wilder in 1885. She published many books based on her travels to the west. Her writing became the basis for the " Little House" series She died in 1957.

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

8. Katina and her brother, Jess were playing with the water hose outside one day. Jess was hiding from Katina so she wouldn't squirt him with the water. The back door opened and Katina pointed the water hose toward the door. It was Mom and she was dripping wet!

The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____

AUTHOR'S TONE

The author's tone is related to the author's **attitude** toward the subject that he is writing about or how the author **feels** about the subject.

Exercise 3: Match the following words that are used for TONE with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. neutral ____ | A. ironic, making fun of something |
| 2. cautionary ____ | B. not having positive or negative feelings about the subject, objective |
| 3. sentimental ____ | C. worried |
| 4. concerned ____ | D. including or making severe or negative judgments |
| 5. sarcastic ____ | E. supportive, showing agreement, encouraging, or approving |
| 6. critical ____ | F. giving warning |
| 7. positive ____ | G. emotional |
| 8. pessimistic ____ | H. being careful to avoid danger or risks |
| 9. cautious ____ | I. hopeful |
| 10. optimistic ____ | J. focusing on the bad part of a situation, expecting bad things to happen |

When considering tone/attitude:

Look at **WORD CHOICE**. Words have positive, negative or neutral associations. Example: Compare "fat" and "chubby"

Analyze the **PHRASING** that is used to describe events. What kind of language does he use? Example: Is he making fun of something, giving facts without telling his opinion, etc?

Consider **how you FEEL** when reading. What emotions come naturally to you? Example: Do you get angry, sad, or joyous?

Exercise 4: Identify the author's purpose and tone in the passages below.

- If you ask most Kazakhstanis if bride kidnapping still exists in Kazakhstan, they will say "No! Of course not!" However, bride kidnapping is a huge problem, especially in the southern region of Kazakhstan. During the time that Kazakhstan was part of the Soviet Union, it was almost eliminated. However, after the 1990's, it has increased by 70%! This is outrageous and unacceptable.

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude towards bride kidnapping: _____

- A group of little boys try to escape from their country where there is a war, and they get on a plane. However, the plane crashes on a deserted tropical island. The boys who survive the accident elect one of them, Ralph, as their leader and try to start a fire to be rescued. The flames quickly spread to the forest. It goes out of control, and the youngest boy in their group disappears.

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude: _____

B1 Level Supplementary Reading Material for Author's Purpose and Tone

3. Most people consider global warming a faraway and distant problem that may or may not affect us in the future. However, it is already affecting humans in most parts of the world, and if we do not take actions now, we may all be doomed in the future. Many people have had to evacuate and leave their homes behind because of rising water levels. In addition, severe weather changes never seen before are affecting crop yields and farming in many parts of the world. Global warming is not a “future” problem; it is a contemporary issue that requires immediate action by the entire human population.

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude towards global warming: _____

4. Poverty has been rising in Turkey at an alarming rate. For many poor people there seems to be no escape from poverty. They believe there is no hope that their condition will change. In addition, they have social problems associated with poverty including low social status, violence, poor health and lack of education. To reduce poverty, government should take necessary steps before it is too late for millions.

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude towards poverty in Turkey: _____

Poor people's attitude towards their own situation: _____

5. Train travel used to be simply a means of getting from one place to another. Now, for people with money, it can also offer education or adventure. The Trans-Siberian Special, for example, is a tour that runs from Kazakhstan to Moscow. This trip offers a fascinating journey through both pre and post-Soviet history as well as delivering a rich cultural experience. Despite the fact that travel by air is much faster and often much more convenient, people nowadays often choose train travel to get a real taste of the culture and countryside. As they say, travel is not so much about the destination, it is more about the trip in getting there.

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude towards the Trans-Siberian Special tour: _____

6. I would like to tell you about the great day I have had so far. I went to Bolu with my friend in the morning. We were quite happy at first since we were going to see our families. My friend was driving and he said he got tired, so we took a break. Although I warned him not to, he drank some beer and wanted to drive again. While we were on the way, we saw two policemen doing the routine traffic control. My friend got panicked and did not stop. The policemen started following us and finally caught us. They asked for IDs, but I had left mine at home by mistake. So now, I am in jail with my friend. I am really lucky, aren't I?

Author's Purpose: _____

Author's Tone/Attitude towards his experience: _____

ANSWER KEY

Exercise 1: Write the purposes of the authors who write the following pieces and explain why you think so.

Genre	Author's Purpose	Why do you think so?
Cookbooks	inform	They give information about how to cook.
Brochures	persuade / inform	It depends on the content but usually they are designed to sell something.
Biographies	inform	They give information about a person's life.
Comic books	entertain	People have fun while reading them.
Newspaper columns	criticize / warn	Authors tell us about what they think is wrong with the world, the country, etc. They sometimes warn us about future dangers, too.
Advertisements	persuade / compare	They are created to sell something. They may also compare the product with similar ones on the market.
Novels	entertain	People have fun while reading them.

Exercise 2: Read the following paragraphs and write the author's purpose (persuade, inform or entertain) in each of them.

1. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____entertain_____
2. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____persuade_____
3. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____inform_____
4. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____criticize_____
5. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____warn_____
6. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____persuade_____
7. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____inform_____
8. The author's purpose in this paragraph is to _____entertain_____

AUTHOR'S TONE

The author's tone is related to the author's **attitude** toward the subject that he is writing about or how the author **feels** about the subject.

Exercise 3: Match the following words that are used for TONE with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. neutral <u> B </u> | A. ironic, making fun of something |
| 2. cautionary <u> F </u> | B. not having positive or negative feelings about the subject, objective |
| 3. sentimental <u> G </u> | C. worried |
| 4. concerned <u> C </u> | D. including or making severe or negative judgments |
| 5. sarcastic <u> A </u> | E. supportive, showing agreement, encouraging, or approving |
| 6. critical <u> D </u> | F. giving warning |
| 7. positive <u> E </u> | G. emotional |
| 8. pessimistic <u> J </u> | H. being careful to avoid danger or risks |
| 9. cautious <u> H </u> | I. hopeful |
| 10. optimistic <u> I </u> | J. focusing on the bad part of a situation, expecting bad things to happen |

Exercise 4: Identify the author's purpose and tone in the passages below.

1. Author's Purpose: _____ criticize _____
Author's Tone/Attitude towards bride kidnapping: _____ critical / concerned _____
2. Author's Purpose: _____ entertain _____
Author's Tone/Attitude: _____ neutral _____
3. Author's Purpose: _____ warn / inform _____
Author's Tone/Attitude towards global warming: _____ cautionary / cautious / concerned _____
4. Author's Purpose: _____ persuade _____
Author's Tone/Attitude towards poverty in Turkey: _____ concerned / cautionary / cautious _____
Poor people's attitude towards their own situation: _____ pessimistic / concerned _____
5. Author's Purpose: _____ inform / persuade _____
Author's Tone/Attitude towards the Trans-Siberian Special tour: _____ positive _____
6. Author's Purpose: _____ inform _____
Author's Tone/Attitude towards his experience: _____ sarcastic / ironic _____