


READING STRATEGIES

A Critical Reading Strategy: Finding Attitude of the Writer & Tone of the Reading Text

- Writers write about similar topics but each writing is different than the other.
- For example when you write process writing essays topic can be the same but each essay is different because writers have different attitudes, tones and personal ideas.

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- In some passages the author may express how he or she feels about the topic, the ideas or the issues that he or she has written about.
 - In these passages, you should look for words that show an emotion or a strong point of view.
 - Recognizing these words will help you to understand the attitude of the author and tone of passage.

Match the word on the left with the best explanation on the right

1. emotional
2. informative
3. humorous
4. descriptive
5. sarcastic
6. complimentary
7. critical
8. indifferent
9. sympathetic
10. cautionary
11. persuasive
12. explanatory
13. outraged
14. concerned
15. historical

- A. disinterested; neutral
- B. trying to change an attitude, an opinion or a behaviour
- C. objective; factual reporting; neutral
- D. Angry
- E. giving chronological facts about the past
- F. showing emotion; happy, sad
- G. making fun of something
- H. disagreeing with something
- I. giving reasons and support for a point
- J. Funny
- K. worried; very interested; distressed
- L. agreement with a point; showing understanding
- M. describing something-a process/place etc
- N. giving warning
- O. showing approval or praise

The Answers:

1. emotional
2. informative
3. humorous
4. descriptive
5. sarcastic
6. complimentary
7. critical
8. indifferent
9. Sympathetic

10. cautionary
11. Persuasive

12. explanatory
13. outraged
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- F.** showing emotion; happy, sad
- C.** objective; factual reporting; neutral
- J.** Funny
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Read the sentences below. What is the attitude or tone of the passage?

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

The Answer is

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

cautionary

- 
- 2. 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. _____
 - 3. Advertising children is not only unethical but also very harmful for the psychology of the small kids. Therefore it should be banned. _____

The answers are

- 2. 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.

_____ **informative** _____

- 3. Advertising children is not only unethical but also very harmful for the psychology of the small kids. Therefore it should be banned. _____ **persuasive** & **concerned** _____

- 4. As a mystery and a reworked folktale, *My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk, has some surprising twists and turns, powering a readily engaging plot; as a historical novel, its setting in late sixteenth century Istanbul is convincingly detailed; and as a novel it offers some memorable characters and complex relationships. But what is most notable about *My Name is Red* is the extent to which it is a novel about art, indeed almost a study of Islamic illustration. It contains descriptions of paintings, some of which verge on prose poems. _____

The answer is

- 4. As a mystery and a reworked folktale, *My Name is Red* by Orhan Pamuk, has some surprising twists and turns, powering a readily engaging plot; as a historical novel, its setting in late sixteenth century Istanbul is convincingly detailed; and as a novel it offers some memorable characters and complex relationships. But what is most notable about *My Name is Red* is the extent to which it is a novel about art, indeed almost a study of Islamic illustration. It contains descriptions of paintings, some of which verge on prose poems. ___complimentary_____

- 5. Globalisation has a lot of explanations based on the area that it's used. According to McGraw-Hill Higher Education; in economics, it defined as the increased interdependence of nations' economies as a result of the impact of the transportation and communication revolutions on how business firms conduct their operations. In general meaning, globalisation is the process of developing, manufacturing, and marketing software products that are intended for worldwide distribution. In my opinion, I strongly believe that even if globalisation has some positive effects to a little part of the society, it has more negative effects to rest of the world's population. _____

The answer is

- 5. Globalisation has a lot of explanations based on the area that it's used. According to McGraw-Hill Higher Education; in economics, it defined as the increased interdependence of nations' economies as a result of the impact of the transportation and communication revolutions on how business firms conduct their operations. In general meaning, globalisation is the process of developing, manufacturing, and marketing software products that are intended for worldwide distribution. In my opinion, I strongly believe that even if globalisation has some positive effects to a little part of the society, it has more negative effects to rest of the world's population. persuasive

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

- An author writes for many reasons.
- An author may give you facts or true information about a subject.
- Some authors write fiction stories or stories that are not true. They write these stories to entertain you.
- Other authors may write to persuade or to try to get you to do something.

- It is important for you to know the author's reason for writing a passage because knowing the purpose helps you understand what you are reading.

- the three main reasons for writing are:

- to *persuade* someone to buy something or to believe something
 - to *entertain* them; to make them laugh
 - to *inform* of something they might want to know

READ EACH OF THE FOLLOWING WRITINGS AND DECIDE WHETHER THE AUTHOR'S PURPOSE IS TO:

- persuade**
- inform**
- entertain**


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 would swim in the lake while they fished. It was so funny to watch those dogs paddle around the lake.

What is the author's purpose of this writing?

The answer is

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- **To entertain**



2. The Slim-O-Matic will cause you to loose pounds and inches from your body in one month. This amazing machine helps you to exercise correctly and provides an easy video to show you the proper way to exercise. Send \$75.99 and begin exercising today.

What is the author's purpose of this writing?

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

What is the author's purpose of this writing?

The answer is

2. The Slim-O-Matic will cause you to loose pounds and inches from your body in one month. This amazing machine helps you to exercise correctly and provides an easy video to show you the proper way to exercise. Send \$75.99 and begin exercising today.

To persuade

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■ **To inform**

Resources:

- http://www.teachnology.com/worksheets/language_arts/authors/ver1/index.html