

Author's Purpose

Skills Reviewed and Maintained

- **Comprehension**
Summarizing
Comparing and Contrasting
See Checking Comprehension
- **Writing**
Paragraph

Teach

- Tell students that writers always have a purpose or reason for writing. Have students identify some things they have recently read. Discuss the purposes the authors may have had for writing.
- Write the titles on the board. Ask students to think about why the authors might have written them.
- Point out that sometimes an author has more than one purpose for writing, such as to explain and to express feelings.
- Encourage students to think about the author's purpose for writing the article. Remind them of the four purposes for writing: to inform, to persuade, to entertain, and to express feelings.
- Check for understanding by observing how well students recognize the author's purpose. Have them support their ideas with details from the reading.

Practice

Introducing Vocabulary

- Before students read the article, introduce the vocabulary words and discuss the meaning. Have students use the words in oral sentences.

Reading the Passages

- Have students read the title and look at the photograph to predict what the author's purpose might be for writing the article. Suggest that, as they read, students look for the clue words and phrases that will help them identify the author's purpose.

Checking Comprehension

- Suggest to students that identifying the main idea of the each paragraph in the article may help students summarize the events.
- To compare and contrast information, help students make a two-column chart to identify similarities or differences.

Practicing Comprehension Skills

- Before students complete the activity, discuss the author's purpose for writing the article. Remind students that an author may have more than one purpose. Encourage students with different opinions to support their ideas.
- Afterward, review and discuss students' responses to the questions. Accept different points of view as long as they can be supported by ideas presented in the article.

Practicing Vocabulary

- Have students answer activities where they use the vocabulary given independently. Review their answer together.

Apply

Making the Reading and Writing Connection

- Invite students to take turns reading aloud their paragraphs. Have the class identify the author's purpose for writing the paragraph.

ESL Strategy

- Write the four main purposes for writing on the board: to persuade, to entertain, to inform, and to express feelings.
- Gather some examples of each type of writing and read them aloud. Have students work with English-proficient partners to identify the purpose of each writing.

Multiple Intelligences: Musical

- Play for students a recording of violin music. After listening, have students write a paragraph about the experience. Students can read their paragraphs aloud and let classmates identify their purpose for writing.

Home- School Connection

- Suggest that students gather books from around their home. They can work with a family member to sort the books according to the author's primary purposes.