

Name _____

Author's Purpose

- The **author's purpose** is the reason an author writes something.
- An author may try to persuade, to inform, to entertain, or to express ideas and feelings.
- Different parts of a piece of writing may have different purposes.

Directions Read the following passage.

<p>Props Use two blue blankets for the river. Put potted plants around the river as trees.</p> <p>Narrator People who lived near the river fished for salmon. Salmon was an important part of their diet.</p> <p>Man That fish looks tasty. I want to catch that fish.</p>	<p>Salmon Use a net. (Man puts net in river. Salmon jumps over it.)</p> <p>Salmon I don't want to be caught today. I want to swim upstream instead.</p> <p>Man The joke is on me.</p>
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Directions Complete the chart. Give the author's purpose for each part. Then explain the purpose.

	Purpose	Why do you think so?
Beginning (Props)	Inform: Tell how to make the props.	1. The sentences after "Props" <u>tell how to create the scenery for the play</u>
Middle (Narrator)	2. Inform: <u>Tell about the people and where they live.</u>	3. The narrator tells <u>that salmon was important to the people</u>
End (Man and Salmon)	4. Entertain: Surprise the reader; be funny	5. The play made me <u>laugh</u>

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Home Activity Your child found the author's purpose for three different parts of a play. Read another play. Ask your child to explain the purpose of its different parts. Remember that an author may have more than one reason for writing a play. Some parts of a play inform the reader. Other parts are meant to entertain, persuade, or express feelings.