

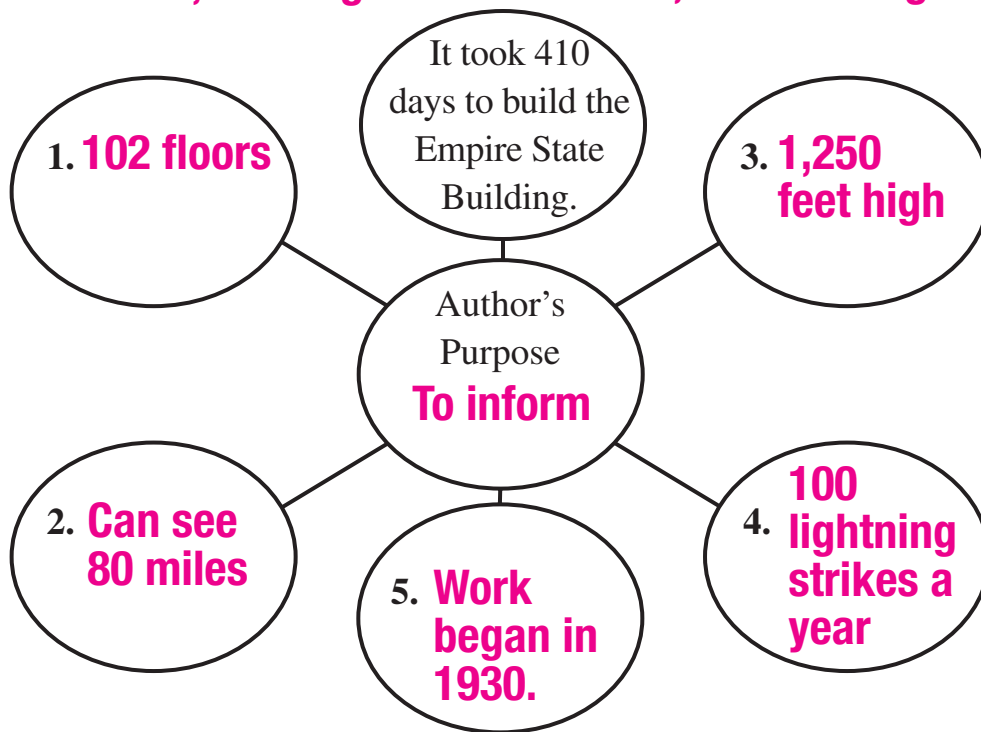
Author's Purpose • Prior Knowledge

- The **author's purpose** is the reason the author has for writing.
- An author usually writes to inform, to persuade, to entertain, or to express an opinion.
- As you read, think about what you already know to help you understand why the author wrote something.

Directions Read the following passage and complete the web below.

Until 1954, the Empire State Building was the tallest building in the world. Work began in 1930. It took 410 days to build. The building has 102 floors. It is 1,250 feet high. From the top of it, you can see 80 miles in all directions if the day is clear. When it storms, the building can get hit by lightning. This happens about 100 times a year. But the building is made out of steel, so it serves as a lightning rod. A lightning rod makes the lightning go down into the ground. Nothing gets hurt that way.

Directions Fill in the author's purpose for this passage in the center circle. Then write the facts from the passage in the other circles. **Additional answers: tallest building until 1954; building is made of steel; serves as lightning rod**



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Home Activity Your child learned about the reasons an author has for writing. Look through the books you have in your home. Have your child tell you if the author wrote the book to provide information, persuade the reader, entertain the reader, or express an opinion.