

Name _____

Author's Purpose

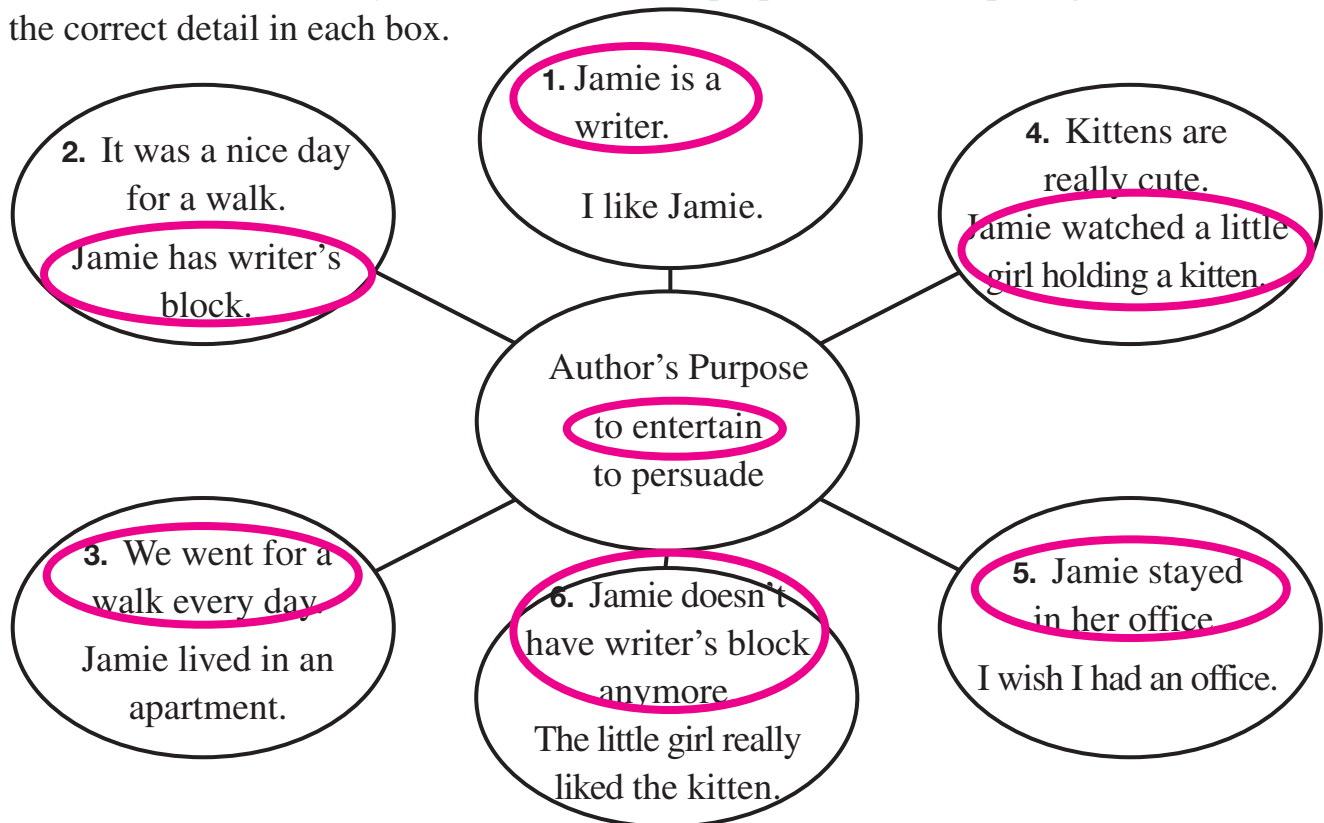
- The **author's purpose** is the reason the author has for writing.
- An author usually writes to inform, to persuade, to entertain, or to express an opinion.
- As you read, think about **what you already know** to help you understand why the author wrote something.

Directions Read the following passage and use the information to complete the web below.

Jamie is a writer. She hasn't written anything for a while, though. She said she has writer's block. I didn't know what that was. At first I thought it was some kind of horrible disease. But she told me it's when a writer can't think of anything to write about. So every day we went for a walk. I guess she hoped she'd see

something or hear something that would inspire her—something that she could write about. Today we saw a little girl sitting on a stoop, holding a kitten. Jamie watched her for a while. When we got home, she locked herself in her office. When she came out, she handed me something to read. I liked it. I think Jamie's cured!

Directions Circle what you think the author's purpose is for this passage. Then circle the correct detail in each box.



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Home Activity Your child learned about the reasons an author has for writing. Go through today's mail with your child and have him or her tell you the purpose for each piece of writing. For example, you might hold up an advertisement for something for your home. The writer's purpose is to get you to buy something. Or you might have a notice from the library about an overdue book. The writer's purpose is to inform you about something.