Identifying Genre, Subgenre, & Author’s Purpose

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts and determine the genre and subgenre. Then write a sentence explaining your answer. You will also identify the author’s purpose.

1. “All Summer in a Day” by Ray Bradbury

This short story is about a class of school children on Venus, a planet where the sun is visible for only two hours every seven years. A mean group of school children lock a young girl from Earth in the closet and forget about her for the whole two hours. She cries.

Genre: ________________________________ Subgenre: _________________________________

Author’s Purpose: Entertain Persuade Inform

Explain Your Answer:


This is the story of a young girl who stumbled upon the home of three bears while walking through the woods. She eats the baby bear’s porridge and sleeps in his bed, finding it to be “just right.” She is awoken when the three bears return to find an intruder in their home and action ensues.

Genre: ________________________________ Subgenre: _________________________________

Author’s Purpose: Entertain Persuade Inform

Explain Your Answer:


This is a science textbook. It contains the most up to date information about Earth science, biology, chemistry, physics, geology, astronomy and more.

Genre: ________________________________ Subgenre: _________________________________

Author’s Purpose: Entertain Persuade Inform

Explain Your Answer:

4. “More Sports at Ericson” by Kelvin Williams

Kelvin writes five paragraphs arguing for more sports programs at Ericson Scholastic Academy. He previews his points in his introduction and develops his three arguments in body paragraphs.

Genre: ________________________________ Subgenre: _________________________________

Author’s Purpose: Entertain Persuade Inform

Explain Your Answer:
5. **The Fallen** by Paul Langan
In this novel Martin Luna, a troubled teenager, struggles with the decision to take revenge on the person who killed his brother. A fight threatens to end his sophomore year at Bluford High School. And Frankie, the most feared homeboy from his neighborhood, is hunting him.

**Genre:** ________________________________  **Subgenre:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author’s Purpose:</th>
<th>Entertain</th>
<th>Persuade</th>
<th>Inform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain Your Answer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **I’m Still in School** by Mr. Morton
This is Mr. Morton’s life story, which he wrote himself.

**Genre:** ________________________________  **Subgenre:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author’s Purpose:</th>
<th>Entertain</th>
<th>Persuade</th>
<th>Inform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain Your Answer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. **Breaking Dawn (the Twilight Saga)** by Stephenie Meyer
The story of a teenage girl named Bella Swan who is in love triangle with a teenage vampire and werewolf. She must choose to either join the dark world of immortals or pursue a fully human life.

**Genre:** ________________________________  **Subgenre:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author’s Purpose:</th>
<th>Entertain</th>
<th>Persuade</th>
<th>Inform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain Your Answer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. **“Paul Bunyan” retold by James MacGillivray**
A collection of hilarious stories about a 40 foot lumberjack adventuring across the American frontier: It took three storks to carry Paul Bunyan to his parents, he sawed the legs of his parents’ bed at seven months old, Paul dug the Grand Canyon while dragging his axe behind him, and so forth.

**Genre:** ________________________________  **Subgenre:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author’s Purpose:</th>
<th>Entertain</th>
<th>Persuade</th>
<th>Inform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain Your Answer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. **Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry
A fictional story set in Nazi-occupied Denmark in 1943 telling of a 10-year-old girl who undertakes a dangerous mission to save her best friend, Ellen Rosen, on the eve when Nazi’s will capture Jews.

**Genre:** ________________________________  **Subgenre:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author’s Purpose:</th>
<th>Entertain</th>
<th>Persuade</th>
<th>Inform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explain Your Answer:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>