

# **Author's Purpose**

## **Modes of Writing**

# Three Reasons for Writing

1. **To Inform** (Expository)
2. **To Persuade** (Persuasive)
3. **Entertain** (Narrative or Poetry)

# Writing to **Inform**

Often called **expository** writing.

**Expository** writing shows or explains **facts**.

## **Examples:**

- Biography of Barack Obama
- News report about a shooting
- Note to a friend
- Essay about “killer bees”

**Remember: Expository = Expose**

# Writing to **Persuade**

Attempts to **influence** the reader.

Usually makes an argument.

## **Examples:**

- Political speeches
- Advertisements
- A cover letter for your resume
- An essay urging readers to recycle

# Writing to **Entertain**

**Narratives:** stories.

Have a beginning, middle, and end

**A story may have a lesson, but the author's main purpose is to entertain.**

## **Examples of Writing to **Entertain****

- Harry Potter books
- Poems about love
- Narrative essay about the big game
- Script for a TV show

**Is it a story, poem, or drama (script)?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Does the text make arguments?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Does the text give facts?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Start  
Over**

**Entertain**

**Persuade**

**Inform**

# Review

- **Informative** or **expository** writing provides **factual** information about a topic.
- **Persuasive** writing expresses an **opinion** (may use facts to support).
- All **narratives** are written to **entertain**, but so is **poetry**.

# Practice

**You will be graded on participation and completion, not on accuracy.**

1. On a separate sheet of paper, number one through ten.
2. I will describe a piece of writing.
3. You will write the author's purpose: to **inform**, **persuade**, or **entertain**.



# 1

The story of a teenage boy learning to understand and live with his father, who is an alcoholic Vietnam war veteran.

# 2

A list of the 25 richest athletes in the world.

# 3

An article arguing why Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player ever.

4

An “X-men” comic book.

# 5

The story about a young girl with low self-esteem learning to love herself.

# 6

A National Geographic article about the eating and breeding habits of the endangered bald eagle.

# 7

A website saying that a new shopping mall should not be built because it threatens an endangered bald eagle's home. The website also lists other reasons why the mall should not be built.

8

A poem about bald eagles.



# 9

A magazine ad telling you to buy Nike Hyperdunk shoes because you'll jump higher.

# 10

A sign saying, “Rest Stop Five Miles Ahead.”

# Answers

1. **Entertain**
2. **Inform**
3. **Persuade**
4. **Entertain**
5. **Entertain**
6. **Inform**
7. **Persuade**
8. **Entertain**
9. **Persuade**
10. **Inform**