

# Bright Horizons Academy

## Grade 6: Language Arts

### Identifying Author's Purpose and Point of View

#### Objective:

Students will *determine* why an author wrote a text (*to inform, persuade, or entertain*) and recognize the *perspective* from which the story or information is presented.

#### Core Content:

##### Author's Purpose:

Authors write for three main reasons:

- **To Inform:** The author gives you *facts* or teaches you about a topic.
  - Example: A textbook or a news article about history.
- **To Persuade:** The author tries to *convince* you to agree with their opinion or take action.
  - Example: An advertisement or an opinion essay.
- **To Entertain:** The author tells a *story* or shares something meant to amuse or engage you.
  - Example: A novel, poem, or funny story.

##### Point of View (POV):

The **point of view** is the perspective from which a story or text is told. The narrator's position affects how we understand the text:

- **First Person:** The narrator is a character in the story and uses “I,” “me,” or “we.”
  - Example: “I couldn’t believe what I saw when I opened the door.”
- **Third Person:** The narrator is outside the story and uses “he,” “she,” or “they.” There are two types:
  - **Limited:** The narrator knows only one character’s thoughts and feelings.
  - **Omniscient:** The narrator knows what all the characters are thinking and doing.

**Why It’s Important:** Understanding the author’s purpose and point of view helps you engage more deeply with the text and think critically about what you’re reading.

## Examples:

### 1. Author’s Purpose Example 1:

- Text: A newspaper article about a historical event.
- Purpose: To inform, because it provides facts.

### 2. Author’s Purpose Example 2:

- Text: An advertisement about why you should try a new phone.
- Purpose: To persuade, because it encourages you to buy something.

### 3. Author’s Purpose Example 3:

- Text: A story about a magical adventure with dragons.
- Purpose: To entertain, because it is engaging and fun to read.

### 4. Point of View Example 1:

- Text: “I opened the treasure chest and gasped.”
- POV: First person, because the narrator uses “I.”

#### 5. Point of View Example 2:

- Text: “She opened the treasure chest and gasped.”
- POV: Third person, because the narrator uses “she” and describes the action from an outside perspective.

### Practice Questions:

Try these questions to practice identifying the author’s purpose and point of view:

1. If a writer provides facts, numbers, and clear explanations about a scientific topic, what is their likely purpose?
2. If a text tries to convince you that recycling is good and provides reasons why you should do it, what is its purpose?
3. If a book is full of jokes and a funny storyline, what is the author’s likely purpose?
4. If the narrator refers to themselves as “I” and describes their own feelings, which point of view is used?
5. If the narrator describes what all the characters are doing and thinking, without using “I,” which point of view is used?

### Answers to Practice Questions:

1. To inform
  - The text gives facts and explanations about a scientific topic.
2. To persuade
  - The text encourages you to recycle by giving reasons.
3. To entertain
  - The text is funny and engaging.

4. First person

- The narrator uses “I” and shares their own perspective.

5. Third person omniscient

- The narrator describes what all characters are doing and thinking without using “I.”