

## Determining Author's Purpose

Authors write to entertain, inform, persuade, or instruct a reader. Use the graphic organizer below to help you decide the author's overall purpose for writing a passage.

Directions: Choose examples (sentences, phrases, graphics, etc.) from the passage and write each one in an appropriate box. Then, analyze the entire graphic organizer as a whole to determine the author's overall purpose for writing.

To Entertain Me	To Inform Me	To Persuade Me	To Instruct Me
Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:
Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:
Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:
Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:

*The author's overall purpose for writing this passage is to:* \_\_\_\_\_

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### Example Passage and Graphic Organizer

The ship *RMS Titanic* took three years to build. At the time it was the largest thing ever set in motion by humans. Built for the White Star line, each of its four smokestacks could hold two train engines side by side. The ship was four city blocks long and 11 stories tall. It could carry over 1,000 crew and 2,500 passengers.

In April 1912 the *Titanic* started on her first trip. Her owner, Bruce Ismay, and her captain, E.J. Smith, wanted the *Titanic* to set a speed record for crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Unfortunately, this helped to cause a terrible disaster that people still talk about today.

To Entertain Me	To Inform Me	To Persuade Me	To Instruct Me
<p>Example:</p> <p>The text mentioned a terrible disaster that people are still talking about. This makes me want to read to find out more.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>The <i>Titanic</i> took three years to build. It was the largest thing ever set in motion.</p>	<p>Example:</p>	<p>Example:</p>
<p>Example:</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>In April 1912 <i>Titanic</i> left England for NYC. This ship's owner and captain wanted it to set a speed record.</p>	<p>Example:</p>	<p>Example:</p>
<p>Example:</p>	<p>Example:</p> <p>It had four giant smokestacks and was four city blocks long and 11 stories high. It could carry 3,500 people.</p>	<p>Example:</p>	<p>Example:</p>

The author's overall purpose for writing this passage is to: **INFORM**

Adapted from: *Nonfiction Strategies—Grades 4-8* (Teacher Created Materials)

## Determining Author's Purpose

Grades 3-4: Authors write to entertain, inform, or instruct a reader. Use the graphic organizer below to help you decide the author's overall purpose for writing a passage.

Directions: Choose examples (sentences, phrases, picture, charts, etc.) from the passage and write each one in an appropriate box. Then, analyze the entire graphic organizer as a whole to determine the author's overall purpose for writing.

<b>To Entertain Me</b>	<b>To Inform Me</b>	<b>To Instruct Me</b>
Example:	Example:	Example:
Example:	Example:	Example:
Example:	Example:	Example:

*The author's overall purpose for writing this passage is to: \_\_\_\_\_*

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