

Author's Purpose

Objective

Students will identify and state the author's purpose and evidence to support their determination in a cultural, historical, or contemporary text.

Materials

- Two cultural, historical, or contemporary texts at students' independent reading level—a text for teacher modeling (one for teacher) and a text for student practice (one per student or group)
- Author's Purpose handout

Overview

Provide explicit instruction with modeling before having students practice independently or in groups.

Activity

1. Distribute the text and the Author's Purpose handout.
2. Review the characteristics of cultural, historical, and contemporary texts that are listed on the handout. Provide an example of each type that is familiar to students.
3. Review the three characteristics of author's purpose listed on the handout.
4. Explain the directions on the handout. Tell students that the evidence will include statements in the text that help the reader know the author's purpose for writing the text.
5. Model the process with the example text and complete the handout.
6. Have students practice the process. Provide scaffolding as needed.

Adapted from Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. (2009). *Teacher reading academies*. Austin, TX: Author.

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Text Types	Cultural Text Text that is centered on the actions and behaviors of different cultures	Historical Text Text that focuses on past accounts, events, and times	Contemporary Text Text that discusses recent accounts, events, and times
Author's Purpose	Entertain Holds reader's attention and is an enjoyable read	Inform Teaches or gives information or facts to reader	Persuade Convinces reader of a certain point of view

Directions

Read the text and fill in the blanks below.

Title of Text:

Type of Text:

Author's Purpose:

Evidence to Support Author's Purpose:

1.

2.

3.

4.