**Author’s Purpose Notes**

The **author’s purpose** is the main reason that he/she has for writing the text.

**There are three main purposes for writing nonfiction:**

1. **To convey a story or message**
2. **To inform or teach**
3. **To persuade**

Can an author have multiple purposes for writing one text?

**How can you figure out the author’s purpose?**

* Ask yourself what has the author told me in this text?
* Why has the author told me these things?
* What does the writer want me to do with this information?

**Try finishing one of these sentences to determine an author’s purpose:**

1. The author wants to convey a story or message about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. The author wants to inform or teach the reader \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. The author wants to persuade the reader that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Check your understanding:**

What do you think the purposes are of the example texts we’ve been looking at?

Which text structures work best for each purpose?