

Why did he write this?



Author's Intent

Story/Passage or Poem	Article
To tell	To teach
To entertain (with a scary story, humorous story)	To show (effects, similarities/differences)
To share	To inform
To teach (fable/moral)	To give facts
To show	To make it clear
To let readers know	To persuade/convince
	To explain
	To demonstrate
	To give an account of (biographies)
	To develop (a setting, an idea, a character)
	To encourage
	To tell the author's main message

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**Main Idea =
Author's Purpose**

Example:

Q: Why did the author write this article?

A: The author wrote this article to give facts about elephants living in central Africa.

Q: Which sentence tells the author's main message?

A: "It isn't just a collection of plants and animals in one place – it is system of connections."