

Reading Skills: Author's Purpose**Reinforcement
1-11**

An **author's purpose** is his or her main reason for writing. The most common reasons for writing are to inform, to persuade, to entertain, and to reflect. Writers may use facts and statistics to inform or persuade. They may use stories about personal experiences to entertain, or reflect.

Read the following passage. Then, answer the questions.

Public schools should put an end to long summer vacations and replace them with short, two-week vacations throughout the year. Over the summer, kids forget most of what they have learned, so teachers have to waste half of the next year reviewing before teaching anything new. If vacations were shorter, kids would not forget as much. They could spend more school time learning new things. Besides, long summer vacations are boring, and most kids end up getting into trouble.

1. What is the author's main purpose? Explain your conclusion.

2. Is the author's purpose supported by mostly opinions or facts? Is this evidence believable? Why or why not?

Circle the letter that best answers the question. Explain your choice.

3. In an article about a new movie, a writer briefly describes the story, and names the actors and the director. What is the author's purpose?

a. to persuade b. to inform c. to entertain d. to reflect

4. In an article about the same movie, another writer describes a slow-moving plot, actors who are not right for their roles, and dull background music. What is the author's purpose?

a. to persuade b. to inform c. to entertain d. to reflect

5. Another writer compares the movie to his own life, and discusses how events in the movie are similar to events in his life and the lessons he learned. What is the author's purpose?

a. to persuade b. to inform c. to entertain d. to reflect
