

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

3-5

PRINT &
DIGITAL

S PURPOSE

Malaria is a serious problem in many countries in Africa, Asia, and South America. Malaria is carried by mosquitoes. People who get malaria get very sick and some even die. One way that families can prevent malaria is to sleep in beds with mosquito nets.

22



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Dear Country Mouse,
Please come and visit me in the city.
I know you will like it here. I live in a warm house
where there is always plenty to eat. I am sure that
we would have a wonderful time together.

24

Sincerely,
City Mouse

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



Use the highlight tool to color the correct slice of pie for each passage. Use the answer boxes to explain your choice.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Jason looked everywhere for his math homework. Where had he put it? He looked on his desk. He looked on his nightstand. He even looked under the bed, but it was nowhere to be found. Finally, Jason gave up and went downstairs to get a glass of milk. That is when he found his homework. It was in the refrigerator!

1

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

There are more than 100 different kinds of pufferfish. Pufferfish are usually small and club-shaped, but when they are threatened, they grow into big, spiky balls. Pufferfish are able to get big fast by swallowing large amounts of water. Most predators will not try to eat a puffed-up pufferfish.

2

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



This passage is informative because it tells about how a pufferfish puffs up and also why it puffs up.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Covered in dragons blood, the brave knight stumbled into the cave. He could not believe his eyes! Gold, silver, diamonds and other gems glittered in front of him. He was rich "Not so fast!" said a voice from behind a pile of silver. A young woman emerged with her sword raised. "The treasure is mine!"

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What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

It is a good idea for kids to help around the house. When you do household chores, you are learning how to be responsible and dependable. You are also learning how to do things you will need to do as adults, such as folding laundry and mowing the lawn. In addition, doing chores will put a smile on your parents' faces.

4

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



This is a persuasive paragraph because it gives reasons why kids should help around the house. Also, it starts by saying that kids helping is a good idea.

24 Paragraph Cards



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

Here are 24 cards to help your students practice determining the author's purpose. This activity is meant to be supplemental and should be used after your students have been introduced to author's purpose and are familiar with the PIE acronym. A PIE poster is included for students to use as a reference as well as three challenge cards to extend the activity.

There are several ways to use these cards. You could use them orally with small groups and have students discuss the answers. They could also be used individually with students answering on notebook paper. Another option for individual use is to have students use the included multiple choice answer sheet. This could work well for younger students or if you do not need students to justify their answers. An answer key is included.

Print this set out in color. For black and white printing, please use the black line version included in this download. If you are printing in black and white, consider printing on colored paper. Simply print and cut along the guidelines. Laminate and use them again and again. Another option is to print on card stock. The cover card included in this set can be used for your Author's Purpose Center or on the container/baggie you use to hold the cards.

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Print or Use Digitally!

Printing Guide

Color Task Cards:	
Author's Purpose Task Cards	5-10
Cover Card and Challenge Cards	11
Student Answer Sheet	12
Answer Key	13
Author's Purpose Poster	14
Black and White Task Cards:	
Author's Purpose Task Cards	15-20
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Answer Key	23
Author's Purpose Poster	24

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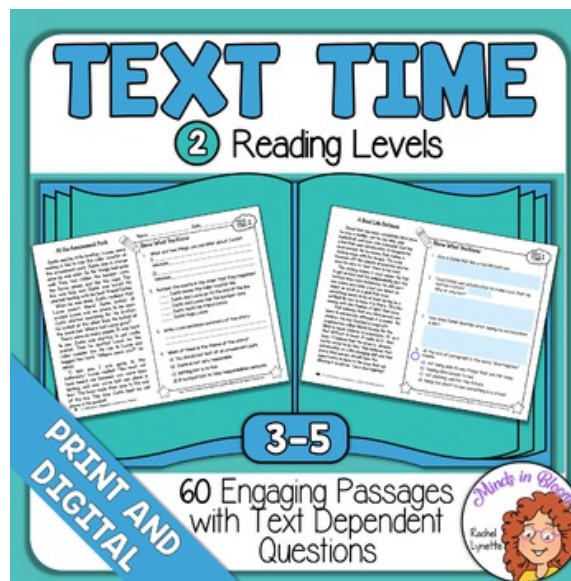
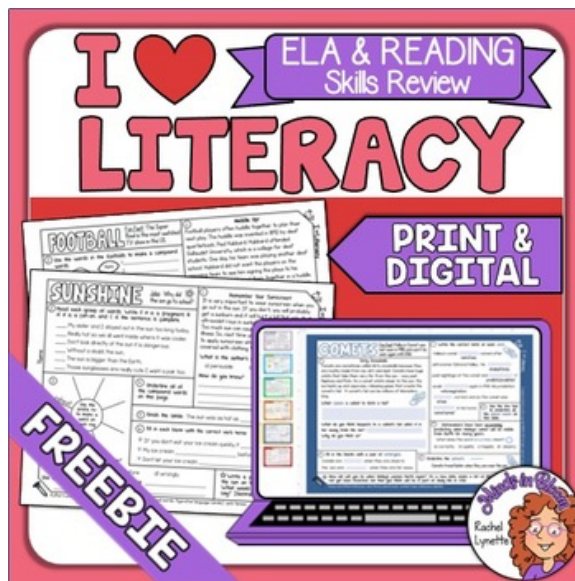
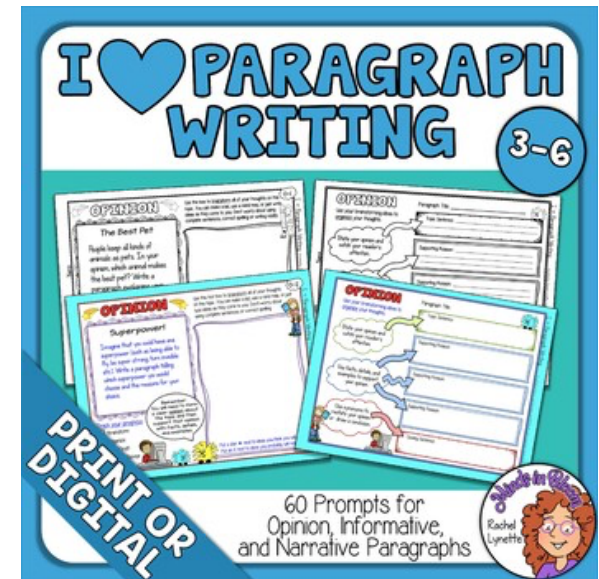
This activity can also be used digitally online with TpT's Digital Activities Tool. After purchase, click the red "Create Digital Activity" button. You will be prompted to select the pages you want to assign. Students will be able to use the highlight tool to color in the correct slice of PIE and type the reasons for their choices in the answer boxes. You can also edit the digital overlay to differentiate the tasks as needed.

Create Digital Activity 

You can add an interactive layer to this PDF and assign it to your students through Google Classroom. [Learn more](#)

Thank you
so very much!

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these other
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Water conducts electricity. That means that electricity can flow through water. It is important to keep electrical devices like hair dryers and curling irons away from the sink and the bathtub.

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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I would make a great babysitter for your children, Mrs. Jones. I turned fourteen last week and I am very responsible. I took the babysitting class at the community center a few months ago. I know first aid and CPR. I love children and I know I would do an excellent job.

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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If you are going to go on a hike in the woods, make sure you go with a friend. You will need to pack a water bottle, a snack, a light jacket, and a map. You may also want to bring a camera. Be sure to wear good walking shoes and comfortable clothing.

What is the author's purpose?
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Did you know that sharks cannot swim backwards? Because their pectoral fins do not bend upward, they cannot stop suddenly or swim backwards the way that other fish can. Another interesting fact about sharks is that they cannot stop swimming or they will sink to the bottom of the ocean.

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Karly knew she had to get help! Michael was trapped under a big tree limb and could hardly move. She ran down the trail looking for someone to help, but there was no one to be seen. Then she heard voices up ahead. Karly ran even faster! When she reached the hikers, she saw that one of them was a park ranger. Michael was going to be okay!

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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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Krystal was walking home from school one day when she saw something glinting in the grass. She bent down and picked up a large, gold key. It was almost as big as her hand! The top of the key had strange markings on it that she could not read. Krystal put the key in her pocket and continued on her way. She did not see the elf watching from behind a fencepost.

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Here are three reasons why you should increase my allowance. First, I have been doing extra chores around the house over the last few months. Second, my allowance has been the same for three years, so it is time for a raise. And third, I want to save money to buy a new bicycle and a larger allowance would really help.

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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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If you want to mail a letter to another person, you will need to put it into an envelope. Then you will need to write the person's address on the front. You will also want to write your own address in the upper left hand corner. The stamp goes in the upper right hand corner. Finally, you need to put your letter in a mailbox so the mail carrier can collect it.

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

16

"Have no fear, Super Shoe Man is here!" Everyone on the sidewalk stared at the superhero who had landed on the sidewalk in front of them. "I see your sandal strap has broken," he said to the little girl who had just taken off her sandal. "Here is a new one to replace it." As the girl put on her new sandal, everyone clapped and cheered. Super Shoe Man had saved the day again!

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

I would not eat that candy if I were you. It is filled with artificial colors and flavors. The first ingredient is sugar. This candy is not good for your body. How about trying a sweet, juicy piece of fruit instead? Fruit tastes great and is loaded with important vitamins and minerals. So the next time you want a snack, skip the candy and reach for an apple or banana instead!

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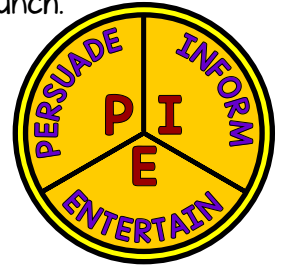


AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

I know that you want to go to the zoo today, but I would rather go to the beach. It is going to be so hot and it would be so nice to cool off in the water. We could bring the big beach ball to play with. We could build a sandcastle. I will even let you bury me in the sand. We could get ice cream at the snack bar after lunch. Doesn't the beach sound like more fun than the zoo?

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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Deep sea anglerfish live in the deepest, darkest parts of the ocean. They have huge, sharp teeth and look very scary. But even if you encountered one, you would not need to be frightened. Most deep sea anglerfish are very small. In fact, a deep sea anglerfish could fit inside a teacup.

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One hot summer day, Lucy and Becky decide to have a lemonade stand. They mixed up a big pitcher of lemonade, got out some paper cups and charged everyone fifty cents a cup. The lemonade was so good that soon they had a line of people waiting. They made enough money selling lemonade to buy tickets to the amusement park the next day!

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Lilly is so silly! Yesterday she put all her clothes on backwards and went to school that way. She walked backwards wherever she went. She tried to sit backwards in her seat, but her teacher made her sit correctly. At lunchtime, she ate her dessert before her sandwich.

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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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Making a delicious smoothie is easy. First put some frozen berries into a blender. You might want to add a banana too. Then add milk or yogurt. Put the lid on the blender and blend it all together until it is smooth. Then just pour it into a cup and enjoy!

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we would have a wonderful time together.
Sincerely,
City Mouse*

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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Task Cards



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #1

Is the paragraph on the card fiction or nonfiction (informational text)?

How do you know?

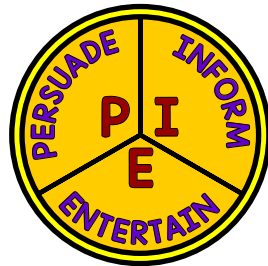
Did knowing the author's purpose help you to decide?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #2

Rewrite the paragraph on the card to give it a different author's purpose. For example, if the author's purpose is to inform, try to make the paragraph persuade instead.



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #3

What is the main idea of the paragraph?



Name: _____

Date: _____

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

Answer Sheet

Card#	Circle the correct answer	✓
1	persuade inform entertain	
2	persuade inform entertain	
3	persuade inform entertain	
4	persuade inform entertain	
5	persuade inform entertain	
6	persuade inform entertain	
7	persuade inform entertain	
8	persuade inform entertain	
9	persuade inform entertain	
10	persuade inform entertain	
11	persuade inform entertain	
12	persuade inform entertain	

Card#	Circle the correct answer	✓
13	persuade inform entertain	
14	persuade inform entertain	
15	persuade inform entertain	
16	persuade inform entertain	
17	persuade inform entertain	
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20	persuade inform entertain	
21	persuade inform entertain	
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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

Answer Key

1	entertain
2	inform
3	entertain
4	persuade
5	entertain
6	persuade
7	entertain
8	inform
9	persuade
10	inform
11	inform
12	entertain

13	entertain
14	persuade
15	inform
16	entertain
17	persuade
18	persuade
19	inform
20	entertain
21	entertain
22	inform
23	inform
24	persuade

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

is as easy as PIE !

The author
is trying
to get you
to believe
or to do
something.



The author
is giving
you
information
about a
topic.

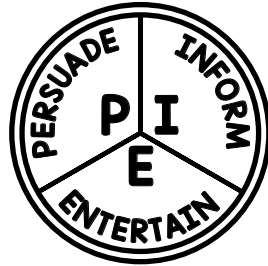
The author is trying to hold your
attention, often by telling a story.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Jason looked everywhere for his math homework. Where had he put it? He looked on his desk. He looked on his nightstand. He even looked under the bed, but it was nowhere to be found. Finally, Jason gave up and went downstairs to get a glass of milk. That is when he found his homework. It was in the refrigerator!

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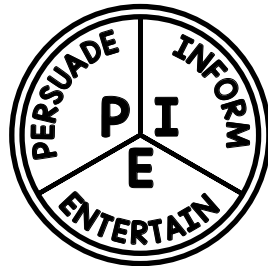


AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Covered in dragon's blood, the brave knight stumbled into the cave. He could not believe his eyes! Gold, silver, diamonds and other gems glittered in front of him. He was rich! "Not so fast," said a voice from behind a pile of silver. A young woman emerged with her sword ready. "this treasure is mine!"

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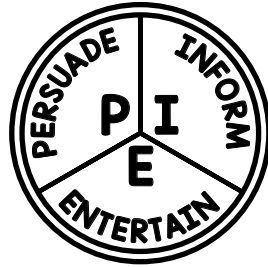


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AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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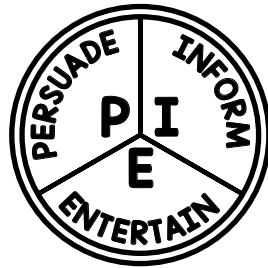


AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

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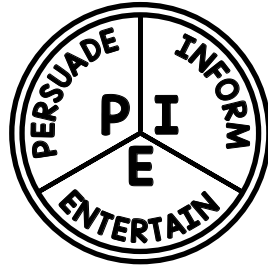


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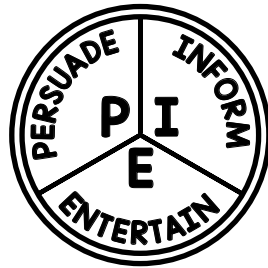


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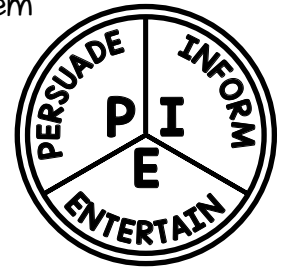


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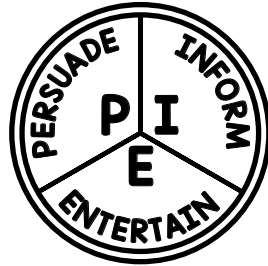


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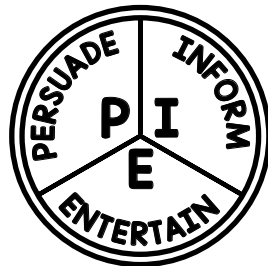


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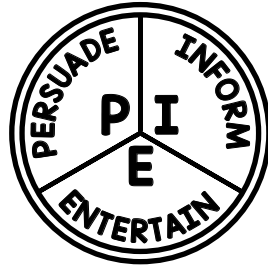
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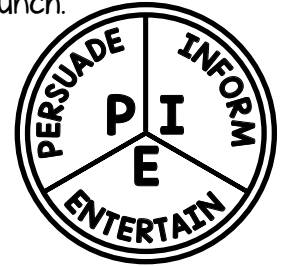


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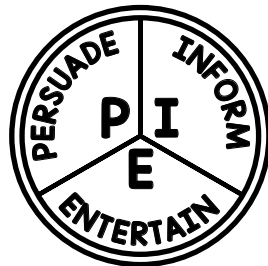


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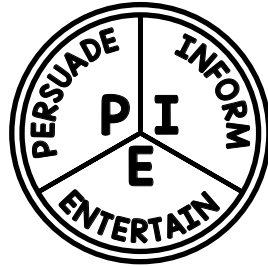
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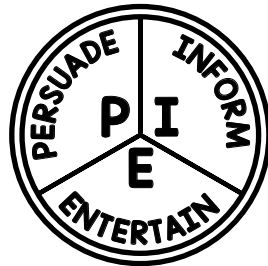


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where there is always plenty to eat. I am sure that
we would have a wonderful time together.*

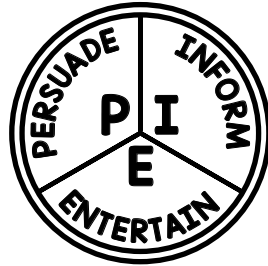
*Sincerely,
City Mouse*

What is the author's purpose?
How do you know?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Task Cards



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #1

Is the paragraph on the card fiction or nonfiction (informational text)?

How do you know?

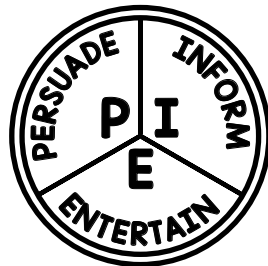
Did knowing the author's purpose help you to decide?



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #2

Rewrite the paragraph on the card to give it a different author's purpose. For example, if the author's purpose is to inform, try to make the paragraph persuade instead.



AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Challenge Card #3

What is the main idea of the paragraph?



Name: _____

Date: _____

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

Answer Sheet

Card#	Circle the correct answer	✓
1	persuade inform entertain	
2	persuade inform entertain	
3	persuade inform entertain	
4	persuade inform entertain	
5	persuade inform entertain	
6	persuade inform entertain	
7	persuade inform entertain	
8	persuade inform entertain	
9	persuade inform entertain	
10	persuade inform entertain	
11	persuade inform entertain	
12	persuade inform entertain	

Card#	Circle the correct answer	✓
13	persuade inform entertain	
14	persuade inform entertain	
15	persuade inform entertain	
16	persuade inform entertain	
17	persuade inform entertain	
18	persuade inform entertain	
19	persuade inform entertain	
20	persuade inform entertain	
21	persuade inform entertain	
22	persuade inform entertain	
23	persuade inform entertain	
24	persuade inform entertain	

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE TASK CARDS

Answer Key

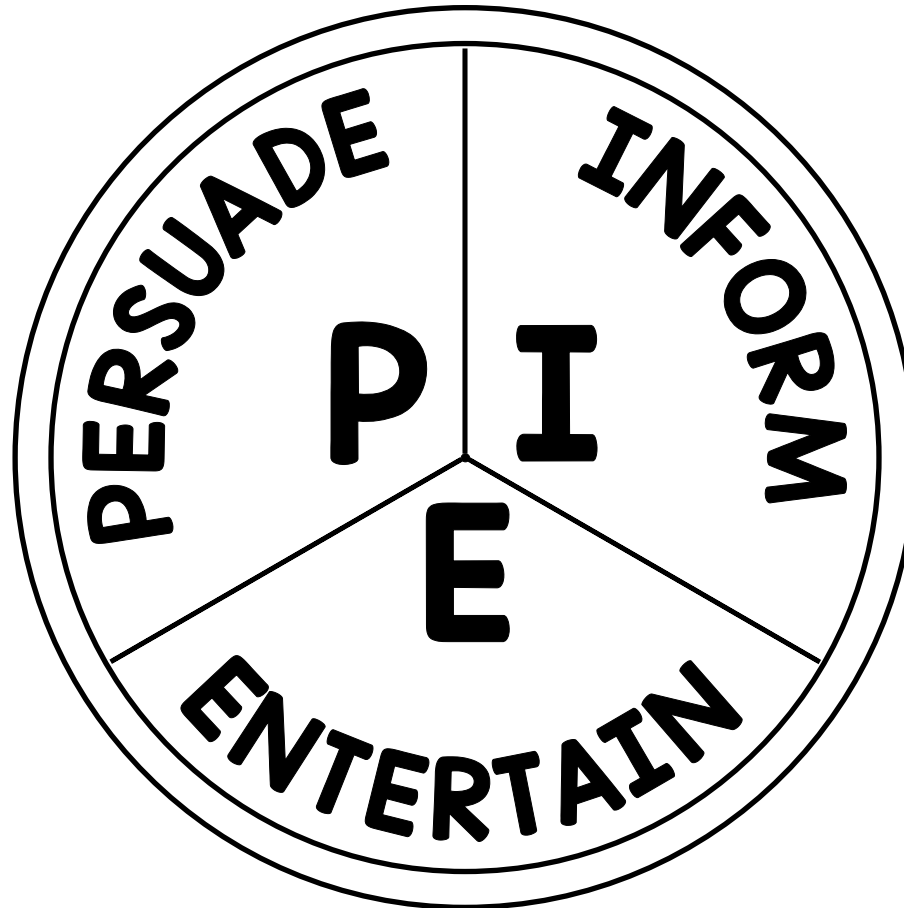
1	entertain
2	inform
3	entertain
4	persuade
5	entertain
6	persuade
7	entertain
8	inform
9	persuade
10	inform
11	inform
12	entertain

13	entertain
14	persuade
15	inform
16	entertain
17	persuade
18	persuade
19	inform
20	entertain
21	entertain
22	inform
23	inform
24	persuade

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

is as easy as PIE !

**The author
is trying
to get you
to believe
or to do
something.**



**The author
is giving
you
information
about a
topic.**

**The author is trying to hold your
attention, often by telling a story.**