

Author Purpose | Butterfly Example

Analyze the type of information and how it's organized to determine the author's purpose.

Overall purpose



To persuade or convince

Persuade readers to provide plants for butterflies.



To inform or teach

Inform readers about the body parts of a butterfly.



To entertain with a story

Entertain readers with a fantasy story about a talking butterfly.

Specific purpose

To share opinion

Butterflies are the best insect.

To suggest or urge

Cities should create butterfly habitats.

To criticize

Chemicals used by farmers hurt butterflies.

To praise

City goes to extreme efforts to provide butterfly habitat.

To explain or describe

All about different kinds of butterflies.

To teach or instruct

The life cycle of the butterfly.

To relate 2 things

How environment (cause) harms (effect) a butterfly.

To compare

A butterfly to a moth.

To share a true story

A child's efforts to create a butterfly refuge.

To make up a story

Two talking butterflies and their adventures.

Author Purpose | Tornado Example

Analyze the type of information and how it's organized to determine the author's purpose.

Overall purpose



To persuade or convince

Persuade readers to donate money for tornado relief.



To inform or teach

Inform readers about tornado safety.



To entertain with a story

Entertain readers with a true tornado survival story.

Specific purpose

To share opinion

(Name a specific tornado) was the most destructive in history.

To suggest or urge

Readers should donate to tornado relief funds.

To criticize

State government didn't provide enough support after a tornado.

To praise

State government provided funds for post-tornado clean-up.

To explain or describe

A description of the inside and eye of a tornado.

To teach or instruct

The 5 stages of a tornado—from how it forms to how it dies.

To relate 2 things

How the changing weather (cause) sets off a tornado alarm (effect).

To compare

A tornado to a hurricane.

To outline a Problem & its solution

To eliminate/decrease (solution) the number of tornadoes in Tornado Alley (problem).

To share a true story

One resident's effort to save lives during a tornado.

To share a unifying message

A state that set up ongoing tornado relief.

To share a true story

An unusual rescue.

To share stories

Poverty and homelessness after a tornado.

Author Purpose | Genetic Engineering Example

Analyze the type of information and how it's organized to determine the author's purpose.

Overall purpose



To persuade or convince

Persuade readers to have their DNA tested.



To inform or teach

Inform readers on the definition of genetic engineering.



To entertain with a story

Entertain readers with a true story of a patient helped by genetic engineering.

Specific purpose

To share opinion

That genetic engineering is unethical.

To suggest or urge

That readers should support legislation to fund genetic engineering.

To criticize

That laws aren't in place to protect privacy/rights against genetic engineering.

To praise

A scientist's efforts to use genetic engineering to save lives.

To explain or describe

The different ways genetic engineering has been used.

To teach or instruct

The process involved in genetic engineering.

To relate 2 things

How a change in genetic makeup (cause) can alter someone's health (effect).

To compare

Genetic engineering to animal testing.

To outline a problem & its solution

Genetic patterns (solution) would likely cure cancer (problem).

To share a true story

A doctor's willingness to test genetic changes on himself.

To share a true story

Senator that championed legislation against genetic engineering.

To share a fictional story

Genetic engineering gone awry.