Lesson 1

Author’s Purpose

Focus:
Today, we will discuss different reasons for writing. We will evaluate how the reason (purpose) for writing changes the content and message of a passage.

Statement of Importance:
It is important to understand an author’s purpose for writing a passage or story. Authors write to inform readers about factual information, to entertain readers with humor about certain topics, to explain the sequence or procedures of a topic, or to persuade the reader to believe things happened exactly as the author thinks they happened. Authors also use a character’s point of view to show the reader a different view of the same topic or story.
Lesson 1  

Author’s Purpose

Across the Curriculum Goals:

Math – Check to see that the facts in story problems are accurate
Science – Carefully read scientific information and decide if it presents facts or if an author has presented his/her view on the facts
Social Studies – Carefully read historical events and evaluate the author’s reason for writing them
Language Arts – Write more effectively by deciding on your reason, or purpose, for writing

Objective:

At the close of the lesson, the students will be able to determine the reason (purpose) an author has written a passage.
Lesson 1  
Objective: Students will brainstorm different reasons to write and send e-mail

CLASSROOM RULES FOR COMPUTER USE

• Save often.
• No food or drink are allowed by the computer.
• Take turns using the computer.
• Sign in under your password only.

CLASSROOM RULES FOR SENDING AND RECEIVING E-MAILS

• Sign in under your password only.
• Don’t open attachments from someone you don’t know.
• Watch your language.
• Never give out personal information.
Definition:

An author’s purpose is the reason an author decides to write about a specific topic. Then, once a topic is selected, the author must decide whether his purpose for writing is to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain his ideas to the reader.
Lesson 1  Author’s Purpose

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An author’s purpose is the reason an author decides to write about a specific topic. Then, once a topic is selected, the author must decide whether his purpose for writing is to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain his ideas to the reader.

Steps for Identifying Author’s Purpose

• Read the passage carefully.
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Steps for Identifying Author’s Purpose

• Read the passage carefully.

• Consider whether or not the author’s information is accurate about the topic.
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Steps for Identifying Author’s Purpose

• Read the passage carefully.

• Consider whether or not the author’s information is accurate about the topic.

• Decide if the text informs, persuades, entertains, or explains the information or if it is presented from a character’s point of view.
Lesson 1  

**Author’s Purpose**

**Definition:**
An *author’s purpose* is the reason an author decides to write about a specific topic. Then, once a topic is selected, the author must decide whether his purpose for writing is to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain his ideas to the reader.

**Steps for Identifying Author’s Purpose**

- Read the passage carefully.
- Consider whether or not the author’s information is accurate about the topic.
- Decide if the text informs, persuades, entertains, or explains the information or if it is presented from a character’s point of view.
- Evaluate whether the author has selected the best way to present and write about his/her topic.
Lesson 1  

**Author’s Purpose**

Objective: Students will understand and identify the author’s purpose for writing

*Initial Instruction—To Inform*

**To Inform:**

“*The History of Electronic Mail*”

Did you know that e-mail is older than the personal computer? It’s true! PCs, like the one in your home or classroom, first appeared in 1975. But as early as 1963, the United States military was storing research information on giant supercomputers. They needed a way to get this data directly from one computer to another. A man named J.C.R. Licklider got the job done. He found a way to connect these supercomputers in order to share the stored knowledge. Licklider gave his invention a fancy name—the Intergalactic Computer Network. By 1970, research computers were sending messages back and forth across the country. This sharing and sending of data was the beginning of e-mail and the resource we call the internet.
“If Your Inbox Could Talk”

Good morning! Wanting to check your e-mail before school? Okay, then just log on, type in your password, and we’re ready to go. Oh, wow, you have 47 new messages! 16 of them are in your junk mail box. What? You’re going to throw them out without even reading them? Well, they were probably all spam anyway. Now, let’s get down to business. This one’s from Aunt Kathy. She always sends the best jokes! Here’s one from your friend George. You’ll want to reply to this one when you finish reading all the others. All done? Send your reply to the out box. Logging off already? All right, then see you after school. Bye!
The definition of author’s purpose is –
An author’s purpose is the reason an author decides to write about a specific topic. Then, once a topic is selected, the author must decide whether his purpose for writing is to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain his ideas to the reader.

Steps for identifying author’s purpose are –

1. Read the passage carefully.

2. Consider whether or not the author’s information is accurate about the topic.

3. Decide if the text informs, persuades, entertains, or explains the information or if it is presented from a character’s point of view.

4.
The definition of *author’s purpose* is –

An *author’s purpose* is the reason an author decides to write about a specific topic. Then, once a topic is selected, the author must decide whether his purpose for writing is to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain his ideas to the reader.

Steps for identifying author’s purpose are –

1. Read the passage carefully.

2. Consider whether or not the author’s information is accurate about the topic.

3. Decide if the text informs, persuades, entertains, or explains the information or if it is presented from a character’s point of view.

4. Evaluate whether the author has selected the best way to present and write about his/her topic.