



Objective

The student will identify the author's purpose.

Materials

- ▶ Header cards
- ▶ Passage cards

If text in this activity is not appropriate for your students, use text that is more applicable.

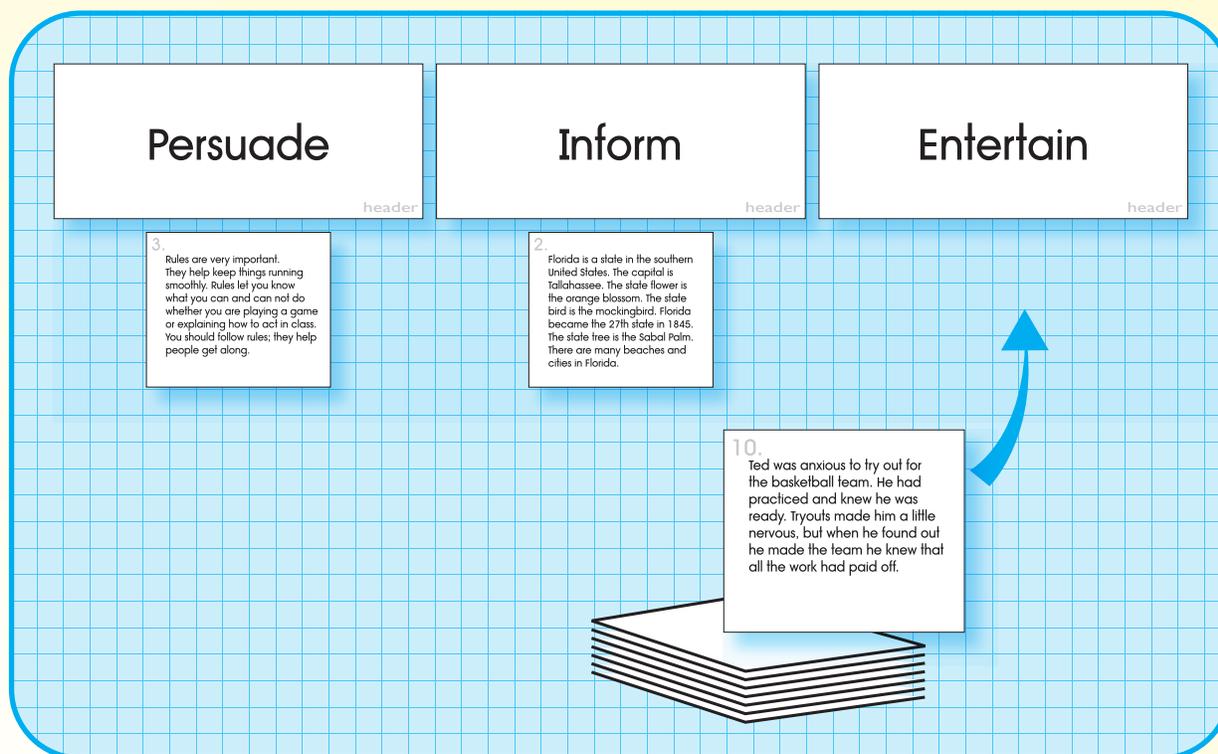
Note: The numbers of the cards correspond to headers in the following manner:

Persuade - 3, 8, 1, 5; Inform - 2, 9, 12, 7; Entertain - 10, 11, 4, 6.

Activity

Students determine author's purpose by sorting passages.

1. Place header cards in a row at the center. Place passage cards face down in a stack.
2. Taking turns, students select the top card from the stack and read it aloud. Decide what the author's purpose is.
3. Place under appropriate header card.
4. Continue until all cards are sorted.
5. Peer evaluation



The diagram illustrates the sorting activity. At the top, three white header cards are arranged horizontally, labeled "Persuade", "Inform", and "Entertain". Each card has the word "header" written in small text at the bottom right. Below these headers are three passage cards. Card 3 is placed under the "Persuade" header; its text reads: "3. Rules are very important. They help keep things running smoothly. Rules let you know what you can and can not do whether you are playing a game or explaining how to act in class. You should follow rules; they help people get along." Card 2 is placed under the "Inform" header; its text reads: "2. Florida is a state in the southern United States. The capital is Tallahassee. The state flower is the orange blossom. The state bird is the mockingbird. Florida became the 27th state in 1845. The state tree is the Sabal Palm. There are many beaches and cities in Florida." Card 10 is placed under the "Entertain" header; its text reads: "10. Ted was anxious to try out for the basketball team. He had practiced and knew he was ready. Tryouts made him a little nervous, but when he found out he made the team he knew that all the work had paid off." To the right of the passage cards is a stack of several white cards, with a blue arrow pointing from the top card of the stack to card 10.

Extensions and Adaptations

- ▶ Write other passage cards to sort.

Persuade

header

Inform

header

Entertain

header



Comprehension

C. 023

Persuade, Inform, and Entertain Sort

3.

Rules are very important. They help keep things running smoothly. Rules let you know what you can and can not do whether you are playing a game or explaining how to act in class. You should follow rules; they help people get along.

8.

Do you want to be an artist? Just enroll in "The Awesome Artists" program. Don't let this opportunity or your talent slip away. We guarantee you will be painting like the masters in two weeks for a low cost of \$59.95.

1.

What you learn in school will help you later in life. It will also help you get a job. If you work hard in school and make good grades, you may be able to go to college and have a career.

5.

Volunteering is a very rewarding experience. There are many ways you can volunteer. For example, you can help clean up a playground. Volunteering benefits other people and also will make you feel good about yourself.

9.

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He was born on February 12, 1809 in Kentucky. He was married to Mary Todd and they had four children. One of his famous speeches was the Gettysburg Address.

2.

Florida is a state in the southern United States. The capital is Tallahassee. The state flower is the orange blossom. The state bird is the mockingbird. Florida became the 27th state in 1845. The state tree is the Sabal Palm. There are many beaches and cities in Florida.



Comprehension

Persuade, Inform, and Entertain Sort

C. 023

12.

Animals are divided into categories. They are grouped according to things they have in common. One category is birds. All birds have feathers. They are warm-blooded. Birds lay eggs and they have wings. Most birds fly, but there are some that do not.

7.

The Food Group Pyramid tells how to eat healthy. It shows how food is divided into six groups. It is important to eat foods that belong to each group every day. The pyramid helps show how much of each you should eat.

10.

Ted was anxious to try out for the basketball team. He had practiced and knew he was ready. Tryouts made him a little nervous, but when he found out he made the team he knew that all the work had paid off.

11.

Beth and her mom went to the circus. This was a special day because she had never been to a circus before. They bought peanuts and went to their seats. She saw clowns, jugglers, and people on trapezes. There were elephants, lions, and tigers. It was a very exciting day for Beth.

4.

The boys were happy when they woke up to find that it was windy outside. It would be a perfect day to fly a kite. They grabbed their kites and went to the park. They spent the whole day there having kite contests and races. The best part was that no one broke or lost his kite.

6.

I walked up to my house when I saw balloons on the front porch. So I walked faster and went inside the house. All of a sudden I heard "Surprise!" and all my friends jumped out with presents in their hands. My birthday wasn't until next week so I was really surprised and happy.

