

Name: _____
Date: _____

Section: _____
Score: _____

- Competency:**
1. Determine the author's purpose in writing a text;
 2. Infer the tone and mood of the text; and
 3. Distinguish direct and indirect characterization

1. The **author's purpose** is their intent (or purpose) for writing something. To either **persuade, inform or entertain** an audience. You will most commonly see these three aspects attributed as being the author's purpose however other elements such as describing and explaining are commonly sighted as well.

2.

A. Tone refers to an author's use of words and writing style to convey his or her attitude towards a topic. Tone is often defined as what the author feels about the subject. What the reader feels is known as the mood.

B. Mood is a literary element that evokes certain feelings or vibes in readers through words and descriptions. As a literary device, mood is the emotional feeling or atmosphere that a work of literature produces in a reader.

3. **Characterization** is the representation of the traits, motives, and psychology of a character in a narrative. Characterization may occur through direct description, in which the character's qualities are described by a narrator, another character, or by the character him or herself. It may also occur indirectly, in which the character's qualities are revealed by his or her actions, thoughts, or dialogue.

ACTIVITY I

Identifying the Author's Purpose

Directions: Identifying the Author's Purpose Directions: Read the selections below. Answer the questions that follow

"The African Elephant"

If you have ever learned much about Africa, then you probably already know about the dignified African elephant. The African elephant is the largest living animal on land. Unfortunately, it also one of the biggest targets of poachers—vicious hunters that illegally kill wild animals for profit.

In April 2013, 650 elephants were killed by poachers in the African country of Cameroon in less than a week. The elephants are brutally murdered for one thing: ivory. An elephant's tusk is made of ivory. Ivory is used in many countries for carvings, knife handles, and even piano keys. As the value of ivory increases, African elephants are more at risk.

In 1990, there were more than 1.3 million elephants in Africa. Today, only around 700,000 African elephants remain. If the world wants to keep these precious animals alive, stopping the poachers is the only way.

- _____ 1. The author wrote this passage to:
- a. Inform the reader about elephant poaching
 - b. Describe the feature of the African Elephant
 - c. Persuade the reader to help the elephants
 - d. Instruct the reader on how to stop poaching

- _____ 2. What evidence shows that the author wrote the passage to inform?
- The author's opinion that stopping poachers will protect the elephants
 - The facts and information about the number of African elephants killed
 - The image of the elephant that shows readers what elephants look like
 - The description of how poachers use the elephants' ivory tusks
- _____ 3. What is the purpose of the author in writing the last paragraph?
- Inform the reader about elephant poaching
 - Describe the feature of the African Elephant
 - Persuade the reader to help the elephants
 - Instruct the reader on how to stop poaching

"Ripples of Energy"

- (1) A wave is any movement that carries energy. Some waves carry energy through water. Others carry energy through gases, like air, or solid materials. If you drop a rock into a pool of water, a wave, or ripple of energy, skims across the pool's surface. In the same way, an underwater earthquake can release energy into ocean water. Then it carries a giant wave, or tsunami, across the surface until it hits land.
- (2) If you hear a clap of thunder, sound waves (or vibrations) have carried the crashing BOOM to your ears. Sound waves speed through the air at about 1,100 feet (335 meters) per second.
- (3) Light also travels through the air in waves. They travel at more than 186,000 miles (300 million meters) per second. So the light waves from a flash of lightning reach your eyes before that clap of thunder reaches your ears!
- (4) Electrons travel in waves, too. They move back and forth in a solid wire, sending waves of electricity so you can turn on a light during the storm!

- _____ 4. What is the author's most important purpose for writing the selection?
- to persuade readers to throw rocks into the water
 - to entertain readers with the legend of Wally Wave
 - to teach readers how to use a surfboard to ride waves
 - to inform readers about different kinds of waves
- _____ 5. Which question could best help someone figure out this author's purpose?
- Did the author give me information?
 - Did I learn how to make an electric light?
 - Did the selection make me feel sad or scared?
 - Did the author want me to make waves?

DIRECTIONS: Read the descriptions in each item and determine the author's main purpose. Circle your answer.

- A poster on the wall that names and defines the parts of speech.
 - To entertain
 - To inform
 - To persuade
- A book that lists words in alphabetical order. It gives the definition(s), pronunciation, and a sample sentence for each word. (dictionary)
 - To entertain
 - To inform
 - To persuade
- A fairy tale about a lovely princess falling in love with a leprechaun.
 - To entertain
 - To inform
 - To persuade
- A comic book about a man that has superpowers and can see into the future.
 - To entertain
 - To inform
 - To persuade
- A speech written by a politician to the public telling them about beliefs and causes that are important to the politician and to encourage people to vote for him.
 - To entertain
 - To inform
 - To persuade