

Analyzing an Author’s Purpose

Introduction

In the table below, read the examples and answer the questions.

| Example | Questions |
|--|---|
| <p>Cheap and disposable, plastic has been a symbol of our throwaway culture. As a result, vast quantities pollute our world. Much of it flows into the oceans, turning them into a plastic soup.</p> | <p>What words stand out to you?</p> <p>What is the effect?</p> <p>What is the author’s purpose?</p> |
| <p>In developed economies, about a third of plastic is used in packaging and roughly the same in buildings in applications such as piping, plumbing, or vinyl siding. Other uses include automobiles (up to 20% plastic), furniture, and toys.</p> | <p>What words stand out to you?</p> <p>What is the effect?</p> <p>What is the author’s purpose?</p> |
| <p>This gigantic pickup truck with large knobby wheels lets your little one roll and store during playtime. Constructed from durable plastic to ensure long-lasting durability, this toy vehicle features a large truck bed with a cover that opens for hauling sand, dirt, or toys.</p> | <p>What words stand out to you?</p> <p>What is the effect?</p> <p>What is the author’s purpose?</p> |

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What words stand out to you? (Also consider: What feelings do the words evoke? What is the connotation of the author's word choice? Are they negative words? Positive words? Academic words?)

What is the effect? (Also consider: What images or feelings do you get when you read this? Do you find yourself agreeing or disagreeing with the author?)

What is the author's purpose? What is the main idea of the text?