

Name _____

Authors have a purpose, or reason, for writing. An **author's purpose** might be to persuade, to inform, or to entertain.

Read each passage below. On the lines provided, write whether the author's main purpose is to persuade, to inform, or to entertain. Then write a sentence to explain your answer.

1. If you're thinking of finding a new hobby, then you should seriously consider bird-watching. First of all, it involves spending time outdoors. Many trips are planned with groups of people, so bird-watching is a good way to make new friends. Best of all, you get to see many interesting birds. Pick up your binoculars today!

Author's purpose: _____

2. I frantically called to my dog Frisky, but it was already too late. She had spotted the skunk and was running after it happily. Frisky just wanted to play, but the skunk didn't know that. As the skunk lifted its tail, Frisky leaned down to get a sniff, and the skunk sprayed her right in the face. Poor Frisky! And poor me! I had to give her a bath.

Author's purpose: _____

3. A skunk is a small, furry animal with black and white markings. Skunks are part of the weasel family. They are best known for the highly offensive liquid that they spray when they are frightened. This smelly liquid is called musk. A skunk can spray its musk as far as ten feet.

Author's purpose: _____

