

## Author's Purpose • Natural Wonders • 1

To help you figure out the author's purpose as you read, remember:

- The **author's purpose** is the reason why the author is writing something.
- The author's purpose can be to **inform**, to **persuade**, or to **entertain**.
- **Text clues** are words or sentences that reveal the author's purpose.

### Author's Purpose Text Marks



Check the author's **purpose**:



to inform



to persuade



to entertain



Underline **text clues**.

Read "The Grandest Canyon." Identify the author's purpose and mark the text.

### The Grandest Canyon

The Grand Canyon is a deep gorge that is 277 miles long and up to 18 miles wide. The Colorado River cut the canyon out of the surrounding rock. It took 3–6 million years to form. The Canyon is famous for the colored stripes of rock on its sides. Over 5 million people visit the Grand Canyon each year. They explore it on foot, on mules, and by raft on the Colorado River.

### Mark the Text

Identify the author's purpose.



Check the author's purpose:



to inform



to persuade



to entertain



Underline three examples of text clues for the purpose.

# Author's Purpose • Natural Wonders • 2

Read "Wild Water Rafting" and "My Mule Pokey." Identify the author's purpose for each reading. Then mark the text.



## Wild Water Rafting

**1** Do you want the trip of a lifetime? The staff at Canyon River Runners is ready to provide it. Our rafting trips through the Grand Canyon are wild and wonderful. Take a white-water raft ride on the Colorado River for three days. See the Grand Canyon from the bottom looking up. It's a wild ride that you'll never forget!

## My Mule Pokey

**2** Our guide introduced me to the mule I'd ride on down into the Grand Canyon. "This is Pokey," he said. I groaned with embarrassment. My brother started to laugh at me. Pokey looked at me and blinked his eyes. I let the guide boost me up onto Pokey's back. "Whoa!" I yelled as Pokey took off for the canyon rim. We stopped just short of the edge. I looked down for a mile into the bottom of the canyon.

"Take it a bit slower, Pokey," I said, patting my mule.

### Mark the Text

**1** Identify the author's purpose.

✓ Check the author's purpose:

- to inform
- to persuade
- to entertain

— Underline two text clues for the purpose.

**2** Identify the author's purpose.

✓ Check the author's purpose:

- to inform
- to persuade
- to entertain

— Underline two text clues for the purpose.

## Author's Purpose • Natural Wonders • 3

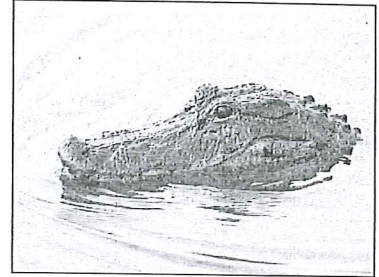
Read "Grassy Waters" and "Everglades Adventure." Identify the author's purpose for each reading. Then mark the text.

### Grassy Waters

**1** The Everglades stretches across 1.5 million acres of grassy land. The land is often flooded by water. Ten thousand different islands make up the park. Many different types of animals live in the Everglades. What animal do visitors want to see most? Everyone hopes to see an alligator snapping its big jaws.

### Everglades Adventure

**2** I paddled my kayak through the winding waterways of the Everglades. My dad was in front of me. No one was behind me, unless an alligator was there. What if it was watching and waiting? Suddenly, I heard a loud plop in the water beside me. I screamed. A big alligator's head rose up beside my kayak. The gator opened its jaws and seemed to laugh at me. Then it sunk slowly back under the water.



#### Mark the Text

**1** Identify the author's purpose.

✓ Check the author's purpose:

to inform

to persuade

to entertain

— Underline two text clues for the purpose.

**2** Identify the author's purpose.

✓ Check the author's purpose:

to inform

to persuade

to entertain

— Underline two text clues for the purpose.