



### Determining the Author’s Purpose

To determine the author’s purpose for writing a book, a story, an article, or any other text, the reader must figure out why the author wrote that particular book, story, article, or text. Some common purposes for writing are to inform, to entertain, to persuade, or to describe. Readers should also be able to explain why the author uses different techniques or includes different features within a text.

**Tip**

To figure out the author’s purpose, ask yourself these questions:

- Where was this text first published or posted?
- What kinds of people would read this kind of newsletter, advertisement, pamphlet, book, magazine, Web site, text, etc.?
- Why would someone want to read this newsletter, advertisement, pamphlet, book, magazine, Web site, text, etc.?

1. On pages 34 and 35 in your textbook, re-read the **Lectura**, *Para estudiar mejor...* and the **Fondo cultural** about the Spanish magazine *Okapi*. Then answer the following questions about the text “*Reglas de oro para estudiar mejor.*”

Where was this text first published or posted?

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What kinds of people do you think would read this kind of magazine?

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Why would someone want to read this magazine article?

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**Sample question:**

2. What was the author’s purpose for writing “*Reglas de oro para estudiar mejor*”?
  - A to entertain young readers with a contest about studying
  - B to persuade readers to improve their study skills
  - C to tell a story about a student who became a success after improving his study skills
  - D to explain how young readers can improve their study habits