

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Thanksgiving Author's Purpose

Read the passage. Write the author's purpose for writing each passage on the line.

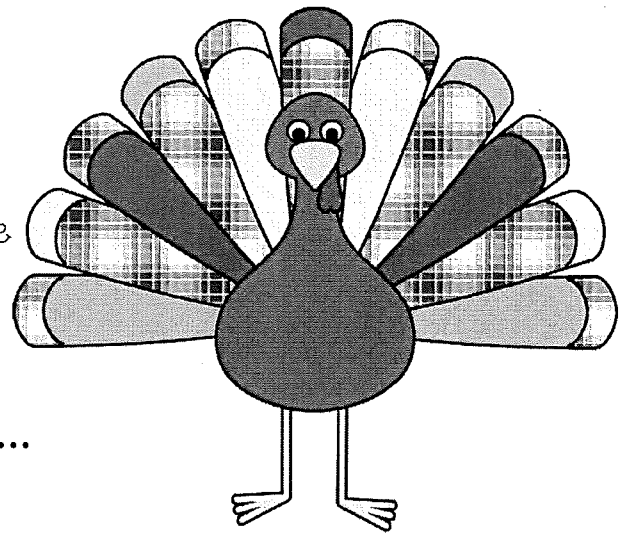
To persuade the reader to....

To inform the reader about...

To entertain the reader with a story about...

To describe a...

To explain to the reader how to...



The Pilgrims' trip on the Mayflower was quite dangerous. They boarded the ship on September 6, 1620, and did not touch dry land again for 66 days. Although many Pilgrims were seasick during their voyage to America, only one passenger died. He was a young boy who died just three days before the Pilgrims reached America. One crew member died. That man was a sailor who taunted the Pilgrims about their homesickness. The colonists believed that he died because God was punishing him for being so cruel.

The Mayflower was damaged by a storm halfway to America. Fortunately, the crew was able to repair the ship. During another storm, a young boy fell overboard into the ocean. Luckily, they rescued the boy from the treacherous waters, and he survived. They were quite relieved to reach America on November 20, 1620.

1. What is the purpose of the above passage?

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Old Tom Turkey spoke to his son, "Junior, it's time we had a talk."

"What is it, Dad?" Junior asked.

"This farmer that owns us... for some reason, when the weather starts getting cooler and most of the leaves have fallen off the trees, he takes as many turkeys as he can catch, and puts them in his truck."

"Where does he take them, Dad?" asked Junior.

"I don't know. I only know that those turkeys that leave never return to the farm." Tom paused and lowered his voice. "So here's what we need to do. Once the farmer collects the chicken eggs each morning, we need to head to the chicken coup. I have a pact with the chickens. They'll hide us until the farmer leaves."

2. What is the purpose of the above passage?

Making a hand turkey picture is one of the most popular crafts that children do during the month of November. Follow these simple steps to make a hand turkey picture. First, place your hand flat on a piece of white paper so that the palm of your hand is facing down and your fingers are spread apart. With your other hand, trace your hand with a pencil. Now lift your hand off the paper, and you should see the outline of the turkey. Next draw a line across the bottom (where your wrist was). Decorate the thumb to resemble a turkey's face by adding an eye, a beak, and the little red waddle that hangs from the turkey's neck. Color the other fingers bright colors- these are the turkey's feathers. Finally, color the palm and draw some simple feet. Your hand turkey craft is now complete!

**3. What is the purpose of the above passage?**

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When I hear the word "Thanksgiving", I immediately think of my grandmother's house in Kansas. I close my eyes and see the lightly roasted turkey, yellow corn, colorful salads, and that orange pumpkin pie. I smell the mouth-watering aromas that engulf my grandmother's house- the smell of turkey fresh out of the oven and the sweet scent of her candied yams. I feel warmth- from an oven that's been working for several hours, and from a houseful of thirty family members who have gathered in Grandma's small house. I hear lots of laughter and conversation. Last, but not least, I taste those delicious Thanksgiving flavors that come together only once a year- the time Americans set aside to give thanks for our blessings.

**4. What is the purpose of the above passage?**

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Attention Mothers of the World: We kids don't mind eating turkey on Thanksgiving. However, we beg you, PLEASE do not make us eat leftover turkey every day following Thanksgiving for a week! There is only so much turkey a person can eat! Turkey omelets for breakfast, turkey sandwiches for lunch, turkey casseroles for dinner... it's too much! Turkey on Thanksgiving is quite enough.

**5. What is the purpose of the above passage?**