

Author's Purpose


Read the assigned passage and answer the questions that follow. Be sure to cite evidence from the passage for support where necessary.


1. List the emotionally charged (connotative) words the author uses in this passage.


2. What inferences can you make about the author's attitude (tone) toward the subject by looking at the words listed in question #1? Be sure to explain how and why these words suggest the author's attitude.


3. Study the list of devices below. Place a check mark by any of the devices used by the writer in this passage.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simple diction | <input type="checkbox"/> Literal language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Figurative language | <input type="checkbox"/> Complex sentence structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simple sentence structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Irony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humor | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreshadowing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vivid imagery | <input type="checkbox"/> Suspense |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archetypes | <input type="checkbox"/> A listing of details |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sound devices | <input type="checkbox"/> Parallel structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repetition | <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized vocabulary or jargon | <input type="checkbox"/> Other(s) _____ |

4. Select a device checked above. _____
 Quote an example from the passage.

 Explain the purpose or effect of the use of the device.

5. Select a second device checked above. _____
 Quote an example from the passage.

 Explain the purpose or effect of the use of the device.

6. Who is the intended audience for this passage? Justify your answer with references to the author's attitude and the devices used in the passage.

7. What is the author's purpose in writing the passage? Justify your answer.

8. Does the author achieve his or her purpose? Is it effective? Justify your answer.