

Author's Purpose in Science Texts

Today's Standard

9-10.RST.6 - Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text, defining the question the author seeks to address.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing scientific articles to understand the purpose behind the research.; Interpreting lab reports to identify the main question addressed.; Evaluating technical manuals for procedural clarity.; Understanding the intent behind scientific discussions in textbooks.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to figure out why an author wrote a science text. Did they want to explain, describe, or talk about an experiment?

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think the author always wants to tell us something new. This isn't always true. Authors might explain how to do something or talk about an experiment. Another mistake is thinking what we feel about the text is what the author meant. We need to look closely at what the author really wants to say.

Quiz Me

- What is the author's purpose?
- Can the author explain something?
- Can the author describe an experiment?
- Can the author talk about a procedure?
- What do we need to look for in the text?

Help Me

Authors write science texts for different reasons. They might want to explain how something works, describe an experiment, or talk about a process. We can find out why by looking at the words they use and what they talk about.

