

Analyzing an Author's Perspective

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Analyzing an Author's Perspective

What is an author's perspective?

The **author's perspective** is the point of view or attitude that the author has about a topic. ▾



Through his or her writing, the author is saying, "Here's what I think about this issue."



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What is an author's perspective?

If the person in each photograph wrote an essay about birds in our national parks, how would the two perspectives differ?



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Analyzing an Author's Perspective

What is an author's perspective?

Few writers directly state, "My point of view on this subject is _____. " ▼

To figure out the **author's perspective**, you have to look closely, or **analyze**, the writing.



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Why analyze an author's perspective?

If you understand the author's perspective, you can ▼

- evaluate the author's ideas ▼
- determine whether the author is presenting just the facts— or also an opinion



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Why analyze an author's perspective?

When a writer is trying to influence you to think a certain way, be sure to analyze that author's perspective.

Otherwise, you may base your own opinions on some sketchy facts!



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Analyzing Tips

Look for clues in the author's word choice. ▼

In our wonderful past, kids gathered for pickup baseball games. Anyone could play. Parents watched, or didn't. The point was to have fun.

Words like *wonderful* and *fun* hint at the author's view of sports as they were played in the past.



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Analyzing Tips

Look for clues in the author's tone. ▼

By high school, kids are so burned out, lessoned out, and played out that they either drop out or fizzle out.

Repetition of the word *out* (five times) creates an insistent tone that suggests the author is critical of kids' sports today.



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Analyzing Tips

Think about what the author includes. ▼

. . . four-year-olds try out for the Pee Wee Baseball League. Gym lessons begin at age three. Two-year-olds take soccer class. Ridiculously, tennis camps enroll toddlers.

The author includes information about the rise in the numbers of very young children competing in sports.



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Analyzing Tips

Consider what the author leaves out. ▼



Sports have become too competitive, and too many parents see their child as the next Tiger Woods.

The author doesn't mention how sports help develop self-esteem, build leadership, and improve social skills.

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Use the Strategy

As you read "Canines to the Rescue," stop at each open-book sign  and do what the prompt says. ▼



Stop and
read the
prompt.



Answer the
question ▼

These prompts will help you learn how to use "analyzing an author's perspective" as a reading strategy.

[End of Section]



Analyzing an Author's Perspective

Practice the Strategy

Where would you place the word *employed* on this Perspective Wheel? Why?

Word
Choice

Tone

Information
Included

Information
Left Out

Answer



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Practice the Strategy

Where would you place the *quotation from the veterinarian* on this Perspective Wheel? Why?

Word
Choice

Tone

Information
Included

Information
Left Out

Answer



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Practice the Strategy

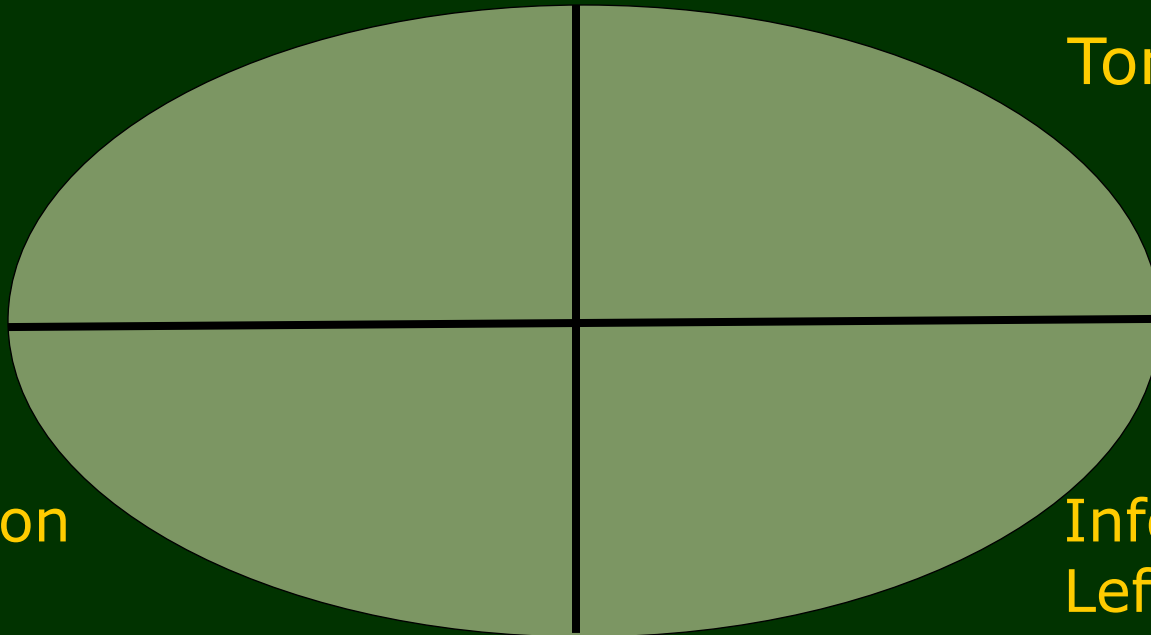
Draw a Perspective Wheel like the one below. Then, place words and phrases listed on page 355 in the appropriate sections on your wheel.

Word
Choice

Tone

Information
Included

Information
Left Out



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Analyzing an Author's Perspective

Practice the Strategy

Next, write a paragraph describing the author's perspective. Use the wheel to organize your ideas and provide support for your argument.



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