

Tone > Bias > Purpose

Find three short passages that reveal the author's attitude toward his/her subject. Copy them here; then, analyze the author's tone and bias. Finally, use this information to draw a conclusion about the author's overall purpose in this text.

(4) Author's Purpose

(1) Passage from text

Use quotation marks and note the page number.

_____ p. ____

Tone used in passage:

Author's bias:

(2) Passage from text

Use quotation marks and note the page number.

_____ p. ____

Tone used in passage:

Author's bias:

(3) Passage from text

Use quotation marks and note the page number.

_____ p. ____

Tone used in passage:

Author's bias:

Name _____

Bias: subjectivity toward the topic such that it affects the accuracy of the information. Biased cues or slanted points of views come in various forms. The easiest way to recognize them is to identifying them using these characteristics:

- Emotional Responses
- Exaggerations
- Overgeneralizations: All or none statements
- Stereotypical comments
- Opinions stated as facts
- Imbalances or one-sided views: What seems to be the view of the site promoters or creators?
- Considering what information may have been purposely left out
- Observing an author's word choices and their connotations.

Tone: the writer's attitude toward his/her subject, e.g. serious sarcastic, objective, enthusiastic, humorous, hostile, disapproving, personal, impersonal, etc.; not to be confused with mood

Purpose: the author's reason for writing, e.g., to describe, to entertain, to persuade, to inform, or to explain. Further, authors sometimes have a more specific attitude or opinion they wish to convey. This is apparent in their tone and bias.