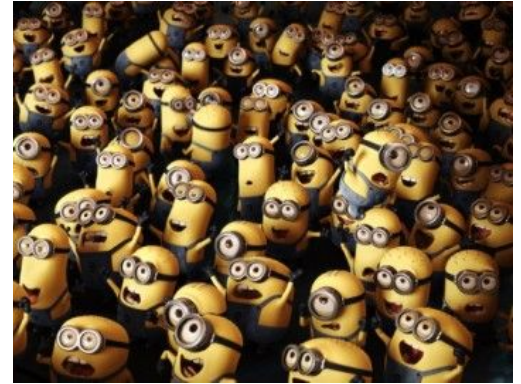


# What to Write

Wouldn't it be great if words could magically appear on paper? Since this doesn't happen, you have to think about what you write. You might have an assignment for school, need to write a shopping list, or want to write a letter to a friend.

**#1. Who is your audience?** Your audience is your reader. Are you writing this for yourself? Your friends or family? A teacher? Before you write, ask yourself these questions to target your audience:

- Who will read what I write?
- What do I know about these people?
- What do I have to say to the readers?
- Why do I want the readers to care about my writing?
- Am I writing about opinions or about facts?
- Will my writing be funny or serious, happy or sad?



**Using the Word Box below, select a possible audience for each piece of writing. Write that audience on the lines provided.**

<b>Classmates</b>	<b>The Department of Transportation</b>
<b>Yourself</b>	<b>Your teacher</b>
<b>The public</b>	<b>Friends</b>

1. A sad poem about a lost pet: \_\_\_\_\_
2. An invitation to a dinner party: \_\_\_\_\_
3. A funny story about an uncle: \_\_\_\_\_
4. A report about traffic problems: \_\_\_\_\_
5. A book review: \_\_\_\_\_
6. An election speech: \_\_\_\_\_

## Write Away!

**Would a letter you write to your grandparents be different from a letter you write to a friend? How would the letters be different? Write a few sentences about your ideas.**

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**#2 Why are you writing?** Before you write, you must choose a **purpose**, or goal, for your writing.

Writers have four main purposes:

- To **express** personal feelings or ideas (Example: diary, journal, opinions)
- To **inform** (Example: facts, reports, research project)
- To **entertain** others (Example: story, books, poems)
- To **persuade** others (Example: speech, book review)

**#3 How will you organize your writing?** Your audience and your purpose determine how you will organize your writing. To be an effective writer, you must choose the correct form to achieve your purpose.

**What purpose would you use to write each of the following? Circle the letter of the answer**

1. A funny story about sharks
  - a. Express
  - b. Persuade
  - c. Entertain
  - d. Inform
2. A speech for a national election
  - a. Express
  - b. Persuade
  - c. Entertain
  - d. Inform
3. Your feelings about a favorite friend
  - a. Express
  - b. Persuade
  - c. Entertain
  - d. Inform
4. A report about Egypt
  - a. Express
  - b. Persuade
  - c. Entertain
  - d. Inform

**Write Away!** You want to watch TV before you do your homework. How can you get that to happen?

What purpose would you use? \_\_\_\_\_

Who would your audience be? \_\_\_\_\_