

# The Author's Main Purpose

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

Authors write for a reason. Some write to explain how something works. Some write to describe a thing. Ask: what does the author want me to know?

### PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

#### Why Plants Need the Sun

Plants are living things, just like animals. But plants cannot walk to find food. Instead, plants make their own food. To do this, a plant needs three things. It needs sunlight, water, and air.

The leaves of a plant catch the light from the sun. The plant uses this light to make food. This food is a kind of sugar. The plant uses the sugar to grow tall and strong. Without sunlight, a plant cannot make food.

A plant that does not get sunlight will turn pale and weak. Soon it may die. That is why you should put a plant near a sunny window. The sun helps the plant stay green, healthy, and alive.

### PART 2 — PRACTICE

Read the passage. Then answer each question about why the author wrote it.

1. What is the author's main purpose in this passage?
  - A. to tell a funny story about a plant
  - B. to explain why plants need the sun
  - C. to teach you to draw a flower
  - D. to sell new garden tools
2. Why did the author write paragraph 2?
  - A. to explain how a plant makes food with sunlight
  - B. to tell a story about a window
  - C. to describe a funny leaf
  - D. to list the names of plants



3. What does the author want you to learn?
  - A. Plants can walk to find food.
  - B. Plants need sunlight, water, and air.
  - C. Plants do not need anything to grow.
  - D. Plants are not living things.
4. What food does a plant make with sunlight?
  - A. a kind of sugar
  - B. leaves
  - C. water
  - D. soil
5. Why did the author write the last paragraph?
  - A. to describe a pale leaf
  - B. to explain what happens to a plant without sun, and what to do
  - C. to tell a joke about windows
  - D. to ask you to buy a plant
6. The author most wants the reader to understand that the sun helps plants \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. sleep
  - B. make food and stay alive
  - C. change color for fun
  - D. move around
7. What would be a good question to ask after reading this passage?
  - A. What is the name of the plant?
  - B. How does a plant use the sun?
  - C. What color is the window?
  - D. Who watered the plant?
8. The author wrote this passage mostly to make the reader laugh.  
**T / F**
9. What is one fact the author wants you to know about the sun and plants?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Why do you think the author wrote this passage? Use the text to explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

- 1  A  B  C  D
- 2  A  B  C  D
- 3  A  B  C  D
- 4  A  B  C  D
- 5  A  B  C  D

- 6  A  B  C  D
- 7  A  B  C  D
- 8  T  F
- 9
- 10

### Explanations

1. B	The whole passage explains why plants need sunlight to live.
2. A	Paragraph 2 explains how leaves use sunlight to make food.
3. B	Paragraph 1 says a plant needs sunlight, water, and air.
4. A	Paragraph 2 says the food is a kind of sugar.
5. B	The last paragraph explains the danger of no sun and tells you to use a sunny window.
6. B	The passage explains the sun lets plants make food and stay alive.
7. B	The author wrote to explain how a plant uses the sun, so this question fits.
8. F	The author wrote to explain why plants need the sun.
9.	<b>Answer:</b> Without sunlight, a plant cannot make food and may die. Accept any fact about the sun helping plants make food and grow.
10.	<b>Answer:</b> The author wrote it to explain why plants need the sun to make food and live. Accept any answer about explaining why plants need the sun.



## Are You Ready for Grade 3 English?

Your child has worked hard all year in Grade 2 — now get a head start on next year! The **Tennessee TCAP Grade 3 ELA bundle** below builds the reading and writing skills students need to start Grade 3 with confidence.



Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

### Tennessee TCAP Grade 3 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

*No repeated questions — maximum practice value!*

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

*Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books*

26 Tests!  
4 Books  
One Bundle

**Important:** All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

5 Practice Tests	6 Practice Tests	7 Practice Tests	8 Practice Tests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ Perfect foundation for TCAP ELA prep</li> <li>✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills</li> <li>✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #2e8b57;">Start your practice journey!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from the 5 tests book</li> <li>✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests</li> <li>✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #2e8b57;">Take your practice to the next level!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5 and 6 tests books</li> <li>✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice</li> <li>✓ Aligned to Grade 3 TCAP ELA standards</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #2e8b57;">Maximum preparation power!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5, 6 and 7 books</li> <li>✓ Great for final review before test day</li> <li>✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: #2e8b57;">Be fully prepared!</p>

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.