

Name _____

Title _____

Author _____

Author's Ideas

Author's ideas: This is not necessarily the thesis, but the main points the author makes-- often bold printed sections highlight or hint at this.

Author's Purpose

Author's purpose: This needs to be a "to be" verb, an action. His or her purpose is to...what? To change? To encourage? To challenge? To argue? To expose? I encourage students to be specific in identifying purpose and to not use a neutral verb if there is not a neutral perspective. This also points to audience.

THESIS (Author's Position on the Topic): _____

Thesis-- Ideally, the 4 boxes help us articulate this with specificity. I make sure to point out that thesis and purpose are not the same, and if we are going to build upon someone else's ideas, we must have a clear, accurate understanding of their thesis.

Language:

This box can be for anything linguistic that helps us unlock or decode the text. Repeated phrases or concepts? Unknown terms? Field specific language? Style? Tone? This helps to point to audience and also to purpose. I point out the connection.

Language

Other Voices:

Here, we write down important other voices the author brings in or builds upon. This helps us navigate between the author's voice and the voice of others-- we don't want to confuse the two, but we do want to understand the relationship between the author and those additional voices.

Other Voices

