

Writing Styles

There are four main types of writing styles. Writing style is like any other type of style in that it helps the writer express who they are, but in written form. How the writer expresses themselves shows who they are or who they would like to be in written form. This can be compared to someone choosing their clothes every morning, an expression of what they want to be like for the day. Each of the four types of writing are explained below.

Expository

Expository writing is a general category of the written word. This includes all writing except persuasive writing. The main purpose is to explain a concept or idea using details for support. This type of writing is usually written based on facts, not opinions. Think of how-to articles or a textbook type of writing. This writing is usually more formal and does not use slang. Expository writing usually begins with a topic sentence that lets the reader know what the remainder of the paragraph or story will be about.

Persuasive

Persuasive writing is like expository writing in that it is written in article like feedback. This type of writing relies on opinions more than facts and is often expressing the writer's opinion to persuade the reader to his or her point of view.

Descriptive

Descriptive writing is mostly fiction and poetry and the purpose is to entertain the reader. This type of writing uses many adjectives and imagery to create a picture in the reader's mind.



Narrative

Narrative writing aims to entertain the reader as the writer tells a story. Narrative writing is about helping the reader imagine the whole story unfolding. Word choice is often changed based on the type of being told. A suspenseful story would be told with words that created mystery while a funny story would have completely different word choices.

All types of writing are important as different messages need to be conveyed in different manners,