Author’s Purpose: Stated VS. Implied
Let’s focus on the first two.
If the author’s purpose is **stated**, the author tells the reader directly the reason why he/she is writing something.
EXAMPLE) You know that apples are juicy, sweet, and tasty. They are often thought of as a treat or dessert, but apples are an important part of your daily diet. Exciting research has shown that apples have the power to help keep you healthy! There are several reasons why apples are good for you.
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Purpose: to inform the reader of the reasons why apples are good for you.
EXAMPLE) You should eat an apple every day for many reasons. First of all, they taste delicious and are a healthy alternative to desserts. Secondly, there are many proven benefits to eating apples. They contain important vitamins that your body needs to be healthy.
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If the author’s purpose is implied, the author gives the reader clues as to why he/she is writing something.
EXAMPLE) When tigers hunt, they hunt alone. In contrast, lions hunt in groups; they work together to drive their prey into an ambush. Cheetahs are known for their speed when they chase prey. Leopards are able to climb trees when they are prowling for prey. Surprisingly, jaguars often hunt in water.

Why did the author write this? What is he/she implying?
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Purpose: to inform the reader that large cats hunt differently
EXAMPLE) Novels and short stories are types of fiction. Drama is another example. Fairy tales and fables are also fiction. It is a type of narrative writing that comes from the imagination of the author rather than from history or fact.

Why did the author write this? What is he/she implying?
EXAMPLE) Novels and short stories are types of fiction. Drama is another example. Fairy tales and fables are also fiction. It is a type of narrative writing that comes from the imagination of the author rather than from history or fact.

Purpose: to inform the reader that there are many types of fiction
In persuasive writing, the purpose is almost always directly stated.

Another way to figure out the author’s purpose is to figure out the main idea. They’re basically the same thing!
You can often figure out the author’s purpose just from reading the title. EX) The Patterns of Migrating Birds
In fiction, the purpose is very rarely stated. Most authors don’t start their stories with, “I’m writing this book to entertain you with a story.”
Questions?