

# Reading Skill

## ANALYZE AUTHOR’S PURPOSE

Writers create their works to fulfill one or more of these general **purposes**: to express thoughts or feelings, to persuade, to inform, or to entertain. Satirical works both inform and entertain, inspiring readers to acknowledge and change awkward or inappropriate behaviors. As you read Addison’s essays, examine the way in which he achieves his dual purposes through the following techniques:

- a surprising or absurd subject matter
- a gently mocking tone, or attitude
- exaggeration

**Directions:** In the chart, record details from the essays that inform and details that entertain. An example has been done for you.

Essay	Details That Inform	Details That Entertain
“Plan and Purpose”		“The mind that lies fallow but a single day sprouts up in follies”
“Country Manners”		
“On Courtship and Marriage”		
“Lugubrious People”		
“Advantages of Marriage”		