

Message Motive Match

Read the message behind the message.

GRADE 8 • SL.8.2

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.2 "Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Use your card's starter before playing it.

2 Make each idea fit the topic.

3 Listen for the format, purpose, and motive.

4 Do not play a card for someone else.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose a TOPIC card and read its question aloud.
2. Each player takes a ROLE card and follows that job during the round.
3. Shuffle enough MOVE card copies to deal four cards to each player.
4. Take turns completing a card's starter with an idea, then place that card in the middle.
5. Keep discussing until every dealt card is in the middle.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I named the purpose of the information.

☐ I explained how the format shaped the message.

☐ I inferred a social, commercial, or political motive.

☐ I connected a motive to the message or audience.


TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Snack Video Ad What is the purpose of a bright online snack video that says its chips make every hangout better, and how might its format and commercial motive shape viewers?	Water Use Graph What is the purpose of a city graph showing water use dropped after a conservation campaign, and how might its graph format and social or political motive shape viewers?	Clothing Drive Speech What is the purpose of a student assembly speech asking classmates to join a clothing drive, and how might its spoken format and social motive shape listeners?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Format Scout Watch for ways the format affects what people notice, hear, or believe.	Purpose Pilot Listen for a clear reason the presenter shared the information.	Motive Sleuth Watch for social, commercial, or political reasons behind the message.	Balance Boss Notice what may be left out and invite a player with fewer cards in the middle to speak.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD PURPOSE CHECK “The main purpose is to ____.”	MOVE CARD PURPOSE CHECK “Another purpose could be to ____.”	MOVE CARD FORMAT CHECK “Because it is a ____, the information can ____.”	MOVE CARD FORMAT CHECK “This format makes the message seem ____.”
MOVE CARD MOTIVE CHECK “A possible ____ motive is ____.”	MOVE CARD MOTIVE CHECK “The presenter may want to ____ because ____.”	MOVE CARD IMPACT CHECK “That motive may shape the message by ____.”	MOVE CARD IMPACT CHECK “This could lead the audience to ____.”

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

The sample exchange uses the Snack Video Ad topic card. For each group, print enough MOVE card copies to deal four cards per player, and require every dealt card to reach the middle. After each round, switch topic and role cards; if participation is uneven, have the Balance Boss call on the player with the most cards left before the next turn.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	The main purpose is to persuade people to buy the chips.
Eli	Because it is a video, the information can combine words with bright images.
Noah	A possible commercial motive is making money from chip sales.
Maya	That motive may shape the message by linking chips with fun hangouts.
Eli	This could lead the audience to expect chips to improve a hangout.

LISTEN FOR

- Names a specific purpose, such as persuade, inform, or encourage action
- Explains how video, graph, or speech changes the message
- Infers a motive and connects it to details in the message
- Explains how the motive may affect the audience or what is left out

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.