

Message Detectives

Students listen for an author's purpose and intended audience, then explain their choices aloud.

K.T.C.1 "Purpose & Audience: Explain how authors of texts use language for a specific purpose and a target audience."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 WHY SAY IT? _____

a	ASK	TELL	WARN
b	ASK	TELL	WARN

2 WHO IS IT FOR? _____

a	KIDS	ADULTS	BABIES
b	KIDS	ADULTS	BABIES

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each message and each printed choice aloud. After students circle, ask them to explain which words in the message helped them decide the author's purpose or audience.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • WHY SAY IT?

SAY "I will read a message. Listen for why the author said it, then circle the purpose word you hear."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: "Could you write your name on the line?" Is the author trying to ask, tell, or warn? Circle the purpose.	ASK
b	Listen: "Warning! The floor is wet. Do not run." Is the author trying to ask, tell, or warn? Circle the purpose.	WARN

PART 2 • WHO IS IT FOR?

SAY "I will read a message. Listen for who the author is talking to, then circle the audience word you hear."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: "Adults, please sign your name on this form." Is this message for kids, adults, or babies? Circle the audience.	ADULTS
b	Listen: "Hey kids! Try this silly rhyme." Is this message for kids, adults, or babies? Circle the audience.	KIDS

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1 answers: ASK, WARN. Part 2 answers: ADULTS, KIDS. Accept oral explanations that point to words such as "Could you," "Warning," "Adults," or "kids."