



## Understanding the Author's Purpose

**Directions:** Read the speech. Then answer the questions that follow.

Fellow classmates, my name is Jess and I am running for student body president. I would appreciate your vote. Why should you vote for me, you might ask? Well, I'll tell you. I have some special projects planned if I am elected.

First, I want to create a pen pal program between our school and a school in another country. Every student here will get to exchange letters with a student who lives in a different part of the world. It will be an opportunity for all of us to make a new friend. It will also be an opportunity to learn about what school and life are like for children of a different culture.

The second project I have planned is to plant a school garden. Mrs. Simmons, our principal, said that we could use the dirt area on the lower playground to plant our own flowers and vegetables. Students who want to help with the garden can come at recess and do different jobs. Mr. Williams, Sasha's dad, said he would volunteer to help us with the garden. This is one way to make our school more beautiful. Also, when the garden is finished, it will be a place where students who like to read at recess can go. They will have a quiet, relaxing place to sit.

Finally, I want to organize school spirit days for the whole year. Every month, I will pick one day with a theme like pajama day or silly hat day. Everyone will get to dress up on those days. Also, there will be special activities. For example, if it is pajama day, then, the cafeteria will serve breakfast for lunch. We'll have a story time in the auditorium where everyone can bring pillows. If it's silly hat day, we'll have a contest to see who can write the silliest story about their silly hat. Another kind of day I've been thinking about is backwards day, where everyone wears their

clothes backwards. I'd also like to have a history day where everyone dresses up as their favourite person from history.

Remember my ideas and remember to vote for me. When you vote for me, you also vote for school links, a garden and school fun days.

Don't settle for less - vote for me, Jess!

1. Circle three sentences that reveal Jess's purpose for making her speech. Write them below.

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2. If you heard this speech, would you vote for Jess? Why or why not?

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3. Write another part for Jess's speech. Add information that you think would help Jess's purpose.

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## Understanding the author's purpose

**Instructions:** Read the speech. Then answer the questions that follow.

Fellow classmates, my name is Jess and I am putting myself forward for the Student Council. I would appreciate your vote. Why should you vote for me, you might ask? Well, I'll tell you. I have some special projects planned if I am voted on.

First, I want to create link scheme between our school and a school in another country. Every student here will be able to exchange letters with a student who lives in a different part of the world. It will be an opportunity for all of us to make a new friend. It will also be an opportunity to learn about what school and life are like for children of a different culture.

The second project I have planned is to plant a school garden. Mrs. Simmons, our Head Teacher, said that we could use the patch of land on the lower playground to plant our own flowers and vegetables. Students who want to help with the garden can come at breaktime and do different jobs. Mr. Williams, Sasha's dad, said he would volunteer to help us with the garden. This is one way to make our school more beautiful. Also, when the garden is finished, it will be a place where students who like to read at break can go. They will have a quiet, relaxing place to sit.

Finally, I want to organise school fun days for the whole year. Every month, I will pick one day with a theme like pyjama day or silly hat day. Everyone will dress up on those days. Also, there will be special activities. For example, if it is pyjama day, then, the cafeteria will serve breakfast for lunch. We'll have a story time in the auditorium where everyone can bring pillows. If it's silly hat day, we'll have a contest to see who can write the silliest story about their silly hat. Another kind of day I've been thinking about is backwards day, where everyone wears

clothes backwards. I'd also like to have a history day where everyone dresses up as their favourite person from history.

**Remember my ideas and remember to vote for me.** When you vote for me, you also vote for school links, a garden and school fun days.

**Don't settle for less - vote for me, Jess!**

1. Circle three sentences that reveal Jess's purpose for making her speech. Write them below.

**I would appreciate your vote.**

**Remember my ideas and remember to vote for me.**

**Don't settle for less - vote for me, Jess.**

2. If you heard this speech, would you vote for Jess? Why or why not?

**Answers will vary.**

3. Write another part for Jess's speech. Add information that you think would help Jess's purpose.

**Answers will vary.**