

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Purpose Pursuit

**Directions:** Read each nonfiction paragraph. Decide the author's purpose (explain, inform, persuade, argue) and cite one clue from the text that proves your choice.

1. Students should be allowed to use lockers during the school day because carrying heavy backpacks increases the risk of back injuries. Studies show that overloaded backpacks can strain growing muscles and joints. Schools that limit locker access put student health at risk. Administrators must reconsider these restrictions.

Author's Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Textual Clue: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Many communities are adding free water bottle filling stations in parks and schools. These stations reduce plastic waste from single-use bottles. They also make clean drinking water easier to access for everyone. Town planners say the stations are a long-term investment in public health.

Author's Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Textual Clue: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Invasive species are plants or animals that spread into new areas and cause harm to local ecosystems. They often arrive by accident through shipping, travel, or trade. Once established, these species can take over habitats and reduce food sources for native animals. Scientists monitor invasive species to protect biodiversity.

Author's Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Textual Clue: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Claiming that homework should be eliminated ignores important evidence about learning and practice. While too much homework can be harmful, reasonable amounts help students review skills and build responsibility. Research supports short, focused assignments rather than long repetitive ones. A complete ban on homework is not supported by facts.

Author's Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Textual Clue: \_\_\_\_\_