



**My
Writing
Coach**

Assignment

Author's Purpose in Informational Text

Topic: Titanic

Your Assignment:

Read the research report below. What was the author's purpose in writing this text? Use key evidence from the passage to support and explain your answer.

A Ticket to the Titanic

By Kendall Karsten

On a frigid night in April 1912, more than 1500 people lost their lives when the RMS Titanic passenger ship sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. On its maiden journey to New York City, it hit an iceberg because it was traveling too quickly, and within hours the ship was cracked into pieces and laying on the ocean floor. It was a captivating story of tragedy and loss, and it continues to be so to this day.

Since the wreckage was discovered off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, approximately 70 years after it sank, it has been visited by fewer than 200 people. Many controversial ventures have taken place during which people went to salvage (gather) some of the artifacts that were scattered across a 15 square mile area surrounding the wreckage. Things like personal mirrors, dolls, watches, etc. have been collected, and these artifacts have been on display at various exhibits around the world.

Other than the researchers and salvage trips' operators, only a few others, tourists that went in 2012, have ever been down to the wreckage site to see what is left of Titanic. It is believed that within the next 15-20 years what remains of the ship will be completely disintegrated due to a bacteria that is eating it away. It has been underwater for 105

years now, and there is not much time left before the opportunity to see the Titanic will be gone forever.

With the permanent loss of Titanic approaching quickly, a consumer demand for trips to the site has been created. This means that regular people want to go visit the site, and they are willing to pay to do so. The demand will be filled by a company that is offering diving tours of the wreckage beginning in May 2018. Tourists that are willing to pay \$105,000 each will be able to take a weeklong trip to the dive site, go out on several diving trips to explore the wreckage, and participate in the work that is done by the crew while they are there. The journey will take the passengers two miles below the surface of the ocean to the hallowed ground that so few have seen with their own eyes.

Not everyone would want to go to the final resting place of so many people to see the remnants of Titanic's tragic journey, nor would everyone be able to afford to do so even if they wish that they could. However just recently other companies have started to offer their own "tours of Titanic", so apparently there is more demand for a chance to get a look at Titanic in her final days than one might think there would be.

Stem Starters:

You may want to consider starting your response with one of these stems. You do not have to do so, but they are here to help you if you need them.

Based on the article, I believe the author's purpose was...

The author's purpose in this text is...

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Your Response:
