

## Nonfiction Unit: Vocabulary Terms- KEY Reference Page

**Definition of Nonfiction:** factual, prose writing that deals with real people and experiences

Type or Form	Traits	Author's Purpose
Autobiography/Biography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ written about a person's life or one main event</li> <li>▪ has a plot</li> <li>▪ can be read in one sitting or have many chapters (length varies)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To entertain</li> <li>▪ To inform</li> </ul>
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ can be based on research or personal experience</li> <li>▪ can be read in one sitting</li> <li>▪ written in paragraph form/usually five or more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To inform</li> <li>▪ To persuade</li> <li>▪ To entertain</li> </ul>
Editorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ focuses on one topic/main idea</li> <li>▪ gives opinion</li> <li>▪ written in paragraphs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To inform</li> <li>▪ To persuade</li> </ul>
Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ focuses on one topic/main idea</li> <li>▪ oral presentation</li> <li>▪ can be based on research or personal experience</li> <li>▪ written in paragraphs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To inform</li> <li>▪ To persuade</li> <li>▪ To entertain</li> </ul>
Newspaper Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ short</li> <li>▪ can be read in one sitting</li> <li>▪ focuses on one topic/main idea</li> <li>▪ shouldn't be biased but often is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To inform</li> <li>▪ To persuade</li> </ul>

TERM	DEFINITION
Author's Purpose	The <b>intention</b> of the writer; the purpose may be to entertain, <b>inform/explain, describe</b> , persuade, or a <b>combination</b> of these purposes
Fact	Something that is known to be <b>true</b> and can most likely be <b>proven</b>
Opinion	Personal <b>feelings</b> or <b>thoughts</b> ; <b>difficult</b> to prove
Author's Background	Personal <b>information</b> about the author that helps the reader understand the author's <b>point of view</b>
Historical Context	References to <b>past events</b> in a nonfiction work
Bias	When an author gives <b>personal opinions</b> ; often causing the reader to form a certain opinion
Emotional Language	<b>Loaded</b> words that impact the reader's <b>opinion/feelings</b>
Semantic Slanting	A technique that an author uses to <b>influence/sway</b> the reader's <b>opinion</b>
Inference	To read between the lines to make an <b>educated guess</b>