

APPENDIX 2.4 Author's Purpose Sample Texts: "Music and Art in School" (purpose: persuade), "Seeing Eye Dogs" (purpose: inform), "The Dinosaur Who Couldn't Come for Tea" (purpose: entertain)

Music and Art in School (Persuade)

Girls and boys, raise your hand if you dance and sing and draw pictures every day. I hope every hand is in the air right now because music and art classes are just as important as every other school subject.

Some people think that teaching children to sing or to paint isn't important. They say that school should get kids ready for college and for work. Dancing and drawing should be saved for free time. Well, guess what. Studying and practicing music, dance, and art make your brain grow. When your brain grows, you learn more! It's true. A group of scientists wanted to prove this, so they gave a test to a group of children who receive daily music lessons. They gave the same test to children who don't get daily music lessons. Who do you think got a higher score on the test? It was the children who studied music!

But wait! There's another big reason that studying art matters: It is *fun*. It is fun to draw a funny sea monster or a horse wearing pants. It feels good to stretch and dance a jig or sing a song about spaghetti. When we create, we learn about our own imagination, and we can also learn about the world. Every country has a special style of music and dance, and when you sing these songs and dance these dances, it is like traveling without leaving your house!

So, girls and boys, sing *loudly*, dance with your whole body, and bring your imagination to life! Your brain will thank you.

Seeing Eye Dogs (Inform)

Not all dogs spend their time playing, chewing on bones, and sleeping. Some dogs work just like people. These dogs are called “seeing eye dogs.” They help blind people get from place to place safely.

Hard-Working Dogs

Seeing eye dogs have a tough job. They must look for dangers and obstacles in the way of their owner. Seeing eye dogs cannot play with other dogs or people when they are walking with their owners. Even if they



smell something delicious like steak, they must keep walking.

Dog School

Just like us, these dogs learn by going to school. At guide dog school, they learn how to walk and lead their owners. They practice walking ahead of the owner and always on the left side. They learn to stop at all curbs until the owner tells them to go forward. Seeing eye dogs also learn to stay very, very still when they are in places like restaurants or their owner's office.

But guide dogs are not the only ones who have to go to guide dog school. Owners have to go to school, too, to learn how to walk with and listen to their seeing eye dogs. They spend a lot of time getting to know the dogs before leaving the school.

Good Disobedience

Sometimes, seeing eye dogs have to disobey their owner. If their owner tells them to go forward but the dog sees cars coming, the dog knows not to listen.

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A seeing eye dog helps his owner.

Work and Play

Just like working humans, seeing eye dogs get to play, have treats, and sleep after they are done working for the day. When a guide dog is leading his or her owner, it is very important that the dog does not play with other dogs or stop to be patted by humans.



Glossary

Blind: unable to see

Disobey: to fail to follow instructions or do what you are told

Obstacle: something that stands in your way or blocks your path

Seeing eye dogs: dogs, usually golden retrievers, Labradors, or German shepherds, that help guide blind people

The Dinosaur Who Couldn't Come for Tea (Entertain)

One afternoon, Sharptail was walking through the forest looking for food. He found a clump of ferns, ducked his head, and was just beginning to eat when he heard voices.

"I'm having a birthday party tomorrow," said the voice.

Sharptail poked his head through the bushes. Rosie the triceratops was talking to Pip the pterodactyl. "It's going to be a tea party. Will you come?" asked Rosie.

"Of course!" said Pip.

"Of course!" said Sharptail, but they didn't hear him through the bushes.

He hurried home to prepare for the party. All that night, Sharptail worked on a present for Rosie: a wreath made out of pinecones and duck lilies. He baked a cake with pink icing.

In the morning, Sharptail put on a bowtie and walked to the party with the present and cake strapped to his back. When he arrived at Rosie's house, all of the dinosaurs were already inside. They were singing songs and eating red velvet cupcakes.

"Happy Birthday!" said Sharptail when Rosie opened the door.

"Oh, hi," said Rosie.

Sharptail tried to squeeze past her into the house, but Rosie stopped him.

"Sharptail—you're just too big. You won't fit inside. The spikes on your tail will tear up the walls, and the plates on your back will rip up the roof."

Sharptail was shocked. "But—" he pointed at the present and the cake on his back.

Rosie said, "I'm sorry," and then shut the door.

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Sharptail stayed for a moment, listening to the party inside. Then he walked away. His head hung low. He tore the wreath from his back and threw it to the ground. He began to run; he didn't want anyone to see him crying. Finally he reached his favorite place in the forest, a hollow surrounded by ferns, and collapsed to the ground.

"Hi."

Sharptail raised his head. "Who's there?"

"It's me, Pip."

"Go away."

Instead Pip fluttered over. He lifted one clawed foot and put it on Sharptail's back. "I'm sorry about the party."

Sharptail didn't answer.

"Is that cake?" asked Pip.

He nodded. Pip unwrapped the cake and nudged it toward Sharptail.

"I'm not hungry," said Sharptail.

"More for me," said Pip, and he began to eat. After a while, Sharptail said, "Maybe one bite."

They finished the entire cake.

"Do you want to go on an adventure?" asked Pip.

Sharptail didn't say anything, but his tail swung out, knocking against a tree so pinecones rained down on the hollow. He lumbered to his feet, and Pip climbed onto his back, and they set off through the duck lilies.