

## Elements of Nonfiction

Nonfiction is the form of literature that is based on fact.

Typically, there are four categories of nonfiction writing:

**Exposition:** The writer informs and explains a topic to the reader. The facts are neutral without the author's opinion.

**Persuasion:** The writer tries to convince the reader to think, feel, or act in a certain way.

**Description:** The writer recreates a person, place, or event through language that appeals to the five senses.

**Narration:** The writer relates a series of events, usually in chronological order. It has the form of a story, but the events must be factual and accurately recorded.

### Types of Nonfiction Writing

Autobiographies

Biographies

Journals

Diaries

Memoirs

Essays (formal, informal, or personal)

Literary nonfiction

Articles

Reports

Every good nonfiction writer has a **purpose**. It may be to create a mood, tell a story, persuade the reader, or explain information.

Nonfiction writing can be **subjective** or **objective**.

Subjective: when writers reveal their feelings and biases.

Objective: when the writer screens out his or her personal feelings and focuses on fact.