1. Because zombies were once human, they share many characteristics with humans. They differ from humans in several important ways, however. Zombies don’t feel pain. In fact, they can function without important parts such as their internal organs. Zombies lack coordination when they move. Zombies also lack human intelligence.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   C. To entertain
2. Frank the Zombie awoke with one thing on his mind. “Brains!” Frank muttered. Frank walked with a halting gait toward the mall. “Brains!” Frank called, but all of the humans were safely locked inside. Frank headed to his next favorite feeding spot, a college campus. “Brains!” Frank cried, but there were no humans in sight. Frank wandered down Main Street, calling for brains but was destined to stay hungry that night.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain

3. Many people think zombies are blood-thirsty, ruthless monsters. This is a misinformed stereotype, however. Zombies can be friendly, even loving. They are capable of forming lasting friendships with humans without eating their brains. One story even tells of a zombie risking his life by fighting other zombies to save his human companion. Those who think zombies are all mindless brain eating machines should rethink their views.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain
4. Having a zombie encounter may be a terrifying experience, but as long as you keep a cool head, you can survive. Zombies move very slowly, so they can be outrun. Zombies also lack basic intelligence, so they are easily confused by traps and distractions. If all else fails, you can lock yourself in a secure location. Most zombies lack the fine motor skills needed to manipulate locks and doorknobs.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain

5. Little is known about zombieism. Scientists currently do not have a cure for someone who has turned into a zombie. Scientists also do not know where the zombie virus originated. In fact, scientists aren't even sure if zombieism is caused by a virus. One thing that is known is that someone catches zombieism from being bitten by a zombie.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain
6. In case of a mass outbreak of zombies, one should have a zombie emergency kit on hand. This kit should contain everything needed for survival. This includes food, water, matches, extra clothing, and a pocket knife. Families should also discuss a zombie disaster plan so everyone knows what to do in case of zombie emergency. Advance preparation is necessary in order to survive a zombie outbreak.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain

7. Zombies first appeared in popular culture as early as 1918. Zombies figure prominently in movies, books, video games, TV shows, and websites. Some zombie entertainment storylines are meant to be scary, while others are meant to be humorous.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain
8. Sarah rushed into the empty house, slamming the door behind her. She could hear the zombie mob shuffling across the front lawn just feet away. She stopped briefly to catch her breath, her shoulders sagging. Safe, for now. Gradually, as her heart and breathing slowed, she began noticing a new sound. A scraping, shuffling sound, as though something was being dragged over the hardwood floors. She had forgotten to check the back door.

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain

9. Vote for Mark Hunter, the candidate that will keep your family safe from zombies! Hunter is the only candidate who is proven to be tough on zombies. He passed strict anti-zombie legislation requiring all zombies to register with the health department. Hunter also supports a tax break for all citizens who zombie-proof their homes. Vote for Mark Hunter for Congress!

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain
10. Human
   Lively, quick
   Laughing, running, playing
   Turns with a bite
   Shuffling, moaning, stalking
   Slow, hungry
   Zombie

What is the author’s purpose?
   a. To persuade
   b. To inform
   c. To entertain

Answer Key
1. b
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. b
6. a
7. b
8. c
9. a
10. c

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I hope you enjoy these author’s purpose zombie task cards! If you do, please rate them! If you haven’t checked out my main idea zombie task cards, you can find them here:


Thanks,

Casey

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