**SOURCE**

* Who wrote the text?
* Can that person be trusted?
* What is there motive for writing the text?
* How does the author feel about the topic he/she are writing about? How do we know that is how he/she feels?
* What techniques do author’s use to persuade the reader?

\*\*These are the types of questions you will see regarding SOURCE on the SOL test. These cannot be “studied” but must be PRACTICED!

**VIEWPOINT**

* Biased/Subjective—The author favors one side over the other and is withholding facts from the reader to get you to lean a certain way. UNTRUSTWORTHY
* Unbiased/Objective—The author is providing all the facts and has no ulterior motive for writing the text. TRUSTWORTHY

**ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS**

* **Compare and Contrast**—Shows how things are similar and/or different (likewise, similarly, on the other hand, yet, however)
* **Chronological**—Time order (dates)
* **Cause and Effect**—something causes something else to happen (because, since, therefore)
* **Enumeration**—list (bullets)
* **Concept/Definition**—Give name or phrase and then a definition/description
* **Problem/Solution**—poses a problem and then explains how it can be solved
* **Process**—explains how to do something (recipe)
* **Generalization**—general statement that is supported by an example (for example, for instance)

**FACT AND OPINION**

* Fact—A statement that can be proven to be true.
* Opinion—A statement that is NOT true; based on someone’s beliefs or values

**AUTHOR’S PURPOSE**

1. **Persuade**—getting the reader to act or think a certain way (want you to do something) \*\*Cannot fully trust a persuasive text!
2. **Inform**—giving factual information about a topic \*\*You can trust this type of text!
3. **Entertain**—any fiction or made up story

**TEXT STRUCTURES**

* **Bold**/i*talics*/colored/underline/ALL CAPS—emphasize a word
* **Heading—**tells what the entire selection is about
* **Subheading—**tells what the paragraph/section is about
* **Footnote—**extra info at the bottom of the page
* **Sidebar**—extra information in a box
* **Graphic/Chart/illustration**
* **Caption—**explains what is in the picture
* **Bullets—**organizes a list

**Informational Texts**: Texts that provide the reader with factual information