



Read each passage and decide: did the author write to Persuade, Inform, or Entertain? Answer the questions in complete sentences.

How Rainbows Appear

Few sights are as magical as a rainbow stretching across the sky. But what exactly creates these colorful arcs? A rainbow is a natural optical phenomenon that occurs when sunlight and water droplets meet in a very specific way. It's not a physical object you can touch; instead, it's light being bent and reflected.



Sunlight, which appears white to our eyes, is actually made up of all the colors of the spectrum: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. When sunlight hits a raindrop, the tiny water droplet acts like a prism. As the light enters the raindrop, it slows down and bends. This bending of light is called refraction. Different colors of light bend at slightly different angles, separating them.

After entering the raindrop and refracting, the light travels to the back of the droplet, where it bounces off the surface. This is called reflection. The light then bends once more as it exits the raindrop and travels towards our eyes. This second refraction further separates the colors. For us to see a rainbow, the sun must be behind us, and the rain in front, with light hitting the raindrops at an angle of roughly 42 degrees.

Understanding how rainbows form helps us appreciate the science behind nature's beauty. Every rainbow you see is unique to your position, meaning no two people see the exact same one. It's a reminder of the amazing physics at work, turning simple sunlight and water into a breathtaking display.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) What is the MAIN purpose of this passage?

- A To entertain readers with a fictional story about a magical rainbow.
- B To persuade people to go outside and look for rainbows more often.
- C To inform readers about the scientific process of how rainbows are formed.
- D To describe the feelings people have when they see a beautiful rainbow.

(2) The author wrote this passage mainly to _____ the reader.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) Which detail from the passage BEST shows the author's purpose?

- A "Few sights are as magical as a rainbow stretching across the sky."
- B "Sunlight, which appears white to our eyes, is actually made up of all the colors of the spectrum..."
- C "As the light enters the raindrop, it slows down and bends. This bending of light is called refraction."
- D "Every rainbow you see is unique to your position, meaning no two people see the exact same one."

(4) How do you know the author's purpose? Use TWO details from the passage to support your answer.



(5) What is the PRIMARY purpose of this passage? Is there a secondary purpose? Use details from the text to explain.

