



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

## The Atomic Age Begins



By the summer of 1945, World War II had raged for nearly six years.

While fighting in Europe ended in May, the war against Japan in the Pacific continued with fierce intensity. Allied leaders faced a difficult decision: launch a costly invasion of Japan, expected to result in many casualties, or use a newly developed, incredibly powerful weapon. This weapon was the atomic bomb, a secret project.

On August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb, named "Little Boy," was dropped by an American B-29 bomber, the Enola Gay, on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. The bomb instantly destroyed a vast area and caused immense loss of life, estimated at around 70,000 to 140,000 people. The devastation was unlike anything the world had ever seen.

Despite this catastrophic event, Japan did not immediately surrender. Three days later, on August 9, 1945, a second atomic bomb, "Fat Man," was dropped on the city of Nagasaki. This second attack led to another wave of destruction and death. Faced with such overwhelming power, Emperor Hirohito announced Japan's surrender on August 15, 1945. This day became known as V-J Day (Victory over Japan Day), officially ending World War II.



The use of the atomic bombs brought an end to the deadliest conflict in human history but also ushered in the nuclear age. It sparked intense debate about the ethics of such weapons and forever changed global warfare. Hiroshima and Nagasaki stand today as powerful reminders of the bombs' devastating impact and the importance of peace.





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COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

- A To persuade readers that using atomic bombs was the only way to end the war.
- B To inform readers about the events that led to the end of World War II in the Pacific.
- C To entertain readers with a dramatic story about a secret weapon.
- D To explain why the atomic bomb was developed during World War II.

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

*— continue writing on the lines below*

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

- A Allied leaders faced a difficult decision: launch a costly invasion of Japan, expected to result in many casualties, or use a newly developed, incredibly powerful weapon.
- B The bomb instantly destroyed a vast area and caused immense loss of life, estimated at around 70,000 to 140,000 people.
- C On August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb, named "Little Boy," was dropped by an American B-29 bomber, the Enola Gay, on the Japanese city of Hiroshima.



- D** It sparked intense debate about the ethics of such weapons and forever changed global warfare.

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

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

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