About the Genre: Magazine Article

What is it?
A magazine article is usually written for a general audience. Readers do not have any special knowledge of the subject. For this reason, authors define technical words and use examples that anyone can understand. For example, an article about the economy will explain economic terms and use simple examples. Magazine articles are found in printed magazines or online.

What is the purpose?
The purpose of a magazine article is to inform or entertain. Some magazine articles also try to persuade.

What is the structure?
A magazine article may be a few paragraphs long or a few pages long. Many magazine articles have pictures, graphs, and charts to help the reader understand the subject.

Magazine articles begin by introducing the topic. The introduction tells the topic and may also explain why the topic of the article is interesting.

In the body of the article, the author supports the topic with evidence, facts, or stories. Long magazine articles may have headings. They tell the readers the subject of the paragraphs that follow the heading. Headings are short, just a few words.

At the end of the article, the author may conclude by refocusing on the purpose of the article and giving a thought-provoking summary of the main point.

Comprehension Questions
1. A magazine article is usually written for which type of reader?
   a. an expert in the field
   b. a general audience
   c. a student studying economics
2. The purposes of a magazine article are to do which of the following? Choose two.
   a. entertain and inform
   b. persuade
   c. describe a process step by step
3. The body of a magazine article will NOT have which of the following items?
   a. supporting evidence or facts
   b. stories
   c. a summary