**FIGURE 19.6:** Aspects of the Author’s Approach

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<th>Aspect of the Author’s Approach</th>
<th>Questions to Ask and Answer to Discover the Author’s Approach</th>
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</table>
| **1. What is the author’s relationship to the subject?** | a. Is the author writing as someone who has experienced the subject firsthand?  
b. Is the author writing as an observer?  
c. Is the author writing as both an observer and as someone who has experienced the topic firsthand?  
d. Is the author an expert on the subject?  
e. Does the author have specialized knowledge such as advanced degrees or job experience? |
| **2. How does the author organize his or her thoughts and primarily present information?** | a. What kind of text structure does the author use to organize and present his or her thoughts—for example, narrative, descriptive, comparison/contrast, cause-effect, problem-solution, time-sequence-order, or argument or persuasion?  
b. How does the author primarily present information—for example, using details, descriptions, illustrations, quotations from individuals, or anecdotes? |
| **3. What is the author’s attitude or posture toward the subject?** | a. Does the author seem respectful?  
b. Does the author have any obvious biases about the subject?  
c. Does the author have a neutral or objective attitude toward the subject?  
d. Does the author have an agenda (something specific he or she wishes to accomplish in writing the text)?  
e. Does the author use a sarcastic or condescending tone?  
f. Does the author make any assumptions about the text? |
| **4. What is the author’s purpose for writing?** | a. What is the author’s primary purpose for writing this text—for example, inform or teach, explain, entertain, describe or give an account of, present, persuade or convince, show or prove?  
b. Does the author seem to have just one or more than one purpose for writing? |