The Ending Matters

Study how a final paragraph brings an explanation together.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2e "Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the passage. Underline the sentence in the last paragraph that gives the writer's final point, then circle two earlier ideas that the ending brings together.

Why Cities Need Trees

1 On a hot day, a city park can feel cooler than a nearby parking lot. Trees shade sidewalks and grass, so sunlight does not heat those surfaces as much. Their leaves also release water vapor, which can cool the air. Because many cities have more pavement than plants, planting and caring for trees can help neighborhoods handle summer heat.

2 Trees can also make a neighborhood healthier and more welcoming. Their roots hold soil in place during heavy rain, and their branches can provide homes for birds and insects. A row of trees may lower energy use, too. When trees shade a building, people may need less air conditioning. These benefits grow when communities choose suitable trees and give young trees water.

3 City trees are more than decorations along a street. By cooling paved areas, helping manage rain, supporting wildlife, and reducing some energy use, they improve daily life in several ways. Planting the right trees and protecting them as they grow is a practical step communities can take. For these reasons, urban trees are an important part of building safer, healthier places to live.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which sentence gives the writer's final judgment about city trees?

2. What four benefits does the last paragraph bring together?

3. Why does the conclusion mention planting suitable trees and protecting them as they grow?

4. How do the words “For these reasons” connect the final sentence to the rest of the passage?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you wrote an explanation about school gardens. Your explanation states that gardens can provide vegetables, give insects habitat, and help students observe plant growth. Write a two-sentence conclusion that brings together at least two ideas and gives a final thought without adding a new reason.

ANSWER KEY

The Ending Matters

GRADE 5 · W.5.2e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the passage. Underline the sentence in the last paragraph that gives the writer's final point, then circle two earlier ideas that the ending brings together. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence gives the writer's final judgment about city trees?	**"For these reasons, urban trees are an important part of building safer, healthier places to live."**
2	What four benefits does the last paragraph bring together?	**Cooling paved areas, helping manage rain, supporting wildlife, and reducing some energy use.**
3	Why does the conclusion mention planting suitable trees and protecting them as they grow?	**It gives communities a practical action that supports the benefits explained in the passage.**
4	How do the words "For these reasons" connect the final sentence to the rest of the passage?	**They show that the earlier facts and benefits support the writer's final judgment.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

School gardens do more than grow food. By providing vegetables, habitats for insects, and chances to observe plants, they make outdoor spaces useful learning places.

Accept a two-sentence ending that restates or brings together at least two given ideas and provides a related final thought. Do not accept a response that adds an unrelated new benefit or simply lists the details without a concluding point.