

Mistake to Meaning

Trace how a narrator ends an experience with a fitting conclusion.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.3e "Provide a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the final sentence of the passage. Circle two earlier details that show why this conclusion makes sense.

The Garden Row

- ① On Saturday, I volunteered at the community garden because my neighbor Ms. Alvarez needed help before the open house. She handed me a tray of tiny tomato plants and showed me where to place them. I hurried down the row, digging holes without checking the labels. When I finished, Ms. Alvarez studied the row and frowned. I had mixed the cherry tomatoes with the tall slicing tomatoes, so the plants would crowd one another as they grew.
- ② I wanted to fix my mistake before visitors arrived, but I did not know which seedlings belonged where. Instead of guessing again, I asked Ms. Alvarez to explain the labels. We compared leaf shapes, moved the plants carefully, and left enough space for each kind. My knees ached from kneeling, and dirt filled the lines of my hands. Still, when the last plant was in place, the row looked orderly. Ms. Alvarez nodded and said the garden would have room to thrive.
- ③ At the open house, a child pointed at the neat row and asked how I knew where everything should go. I almost said that I had planned it perfectly. Then I told her that I had mixed up the plants first and had needed help to repair the row. She laughed and said she sometimes rushed through her homework too. As families walked past the garden, I felt less embarrassed about my error. I had learned that slowing down and asking questions can turn a mistake into useful work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What conclusion does the narrator reach at the end of the experience?

2 Which action in paragraph 2 most directly supports the idea that asking questions helped the narrator?

3 Why does the narrator tell the child about mixing up the plants? How does this moment connect to the conclusion?

4 Use two events from the passage to explain why the final conclusion fits the narrated experience.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a 4-sentence mini-narrative about a mistake or challenge you faced. Make the final sentence a conclusion that tells what you learned or realized because of the events.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the final sentence of the passage. Circle two earlier details that show why this conclusion makes sense. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What conclusion does the narrator reach at the end of the experience?	The narrator learns that slowing down and asking questions can turn a mistake into useful work.
2	Which action in paragraph 2 most directly supports the idea that asking questions helped the narrator?	The narrator asks Ms. Alvarez to explain the labels instead of guessing again.
3	Why does the narrator tell the child about mixing up the plants? How does this moment connect to the conclusion?	The narrator admits the mistake rather than hiding it. This shows the narrator understands that mistakes can be repaired and learned from.
4	Use two events from the passage to explain why the final conclusion fits the narrated experience.	The narrator rushes and mixes up the plants, then asks Ms. Alvarez for help and carefully fixes the row. These events show that slowing down and asking questions led to a useful result.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I rushed to finish a poster the night before it was due and spilled blue paint across the title. I wanted to throw it away, but I covered the stain with a clean strip of paper and rewrote the words. The next day, my teacher said the new title was easy to read. I learned that staying calm helps me solve problems instead of giving up.

Accept conclusions that clearly grow from the narrator's mistake, response, and result. For the writing task, accept varied experiences when the final sentence states a lesson, realization, or feeling supported by the first three sentences.