Ending With Purpose

Study how a conclusion reinforces an argument.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.6-8.1e "Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the full concluding section in paragraph 3. Circle the words or phrases that link the ending back to the argument's reasons.

A Refill Station Near the Gym

1. Riverview Middle School should install a water-bottle refill station near the gym. Students leave practices thirsty, and the nearest fountain is down a long hallway. A refill station would let students fill reusable bottles quickly with cold, filtered water. It could also show how many plastic bottles have been avoided, making the school's waste-reduction goal visible. Adding one station is a practical change that could improve daily routines for athletes, coaches, and other students who use the gym.

2. Some people may worry that a refill station would cost too much or create a line between classes. However, the school can place it by the gym, where students already wait for rides or practices. Reusable bottles can be filled in seconds, unlike a trip to a distant fountain. The station would not solve every waste problem, but it would give students an easy choice each day. Small habits matter when many students carry drinks during sports, clubs, and field days.

3. For these reasons, Riverview should add a refill station near the gym. It would give active students faster access to water and make reusable bottles a more convenient option. Although the station would require planning and money, its daily benefits would reach many students throughout the year. A single station cannot remove all plastic waste, yet it is a sensible first step toward a healthier, less wasteful school routine for everyone who uses the building.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What action does the first sentence of paragraph 3 ask Riverview to take?

2. Which two benefits does paragraph 3 repeat from the earlier argument?

3. What concern does the conclusion acknowledge, and how does it answer that concern?

4. How does the final sentence make the conclusion support the writer's claim?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Your class argues that the school library should stay open for 30 minutes after school. Write exactly three sentences for a conclusion: restate the position, connect it to a quiet work space and late buses, then acknowledge one concern while ending with support for the idea.

ANSWER KEY

Ending With Purpose

GRADE 7 · WHST.6-8.1e

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the full concluding section in paragraph 3. Circle the words or phrases that link the ending back to the argument's reasons. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What action does the first sentence of paragraph 3 ask Riverview to take?	**Install a water-bottle refill station near the gym.**
2	Which two benefits does paragraph 3 repeat from the earlier argument?	**It would give students faster access to water and make reusable bottles more convenient.**
3	What concern does the conclusion acknowledge, and how does it answer that concern?	**It acknowledges that the station would require planning and money, then says its daily benefits would reach many students all year.**
4	How does the final sentence make the conclusion support the writer's claim?	**It admits that one station will not solve all plastic waste, but presents the station as a sensible first step toward a healthier, less wasteful routine.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

For these reasons, the library should stay open for 30 minutes after school. It would give students a quiet place to finish work and a safe space to wait for late buses. Although an adult would need to supervise, the extra time would serve students who need it most.

For the marking job, students should underline paragraph 3 and circle links such as "For these reasons," "faster access to water," and "reusable bottles." Accept conclusions that restate the position, reconnect to the given reasons, and address a reasonable concern while supporting the claim.