

A Strong Final Word

See how a conclusion brings an argument together.

L6-8WHST1.e "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 In paragraph 3, underline the council's final recommendation, circle the words that signal a conclusion, and number the three reasons that support the recommendation.

Save the Brookdale Depot

- ① The Brookdale City Council should restore the town's 1912 train depot instead of tearing it down for a parking lot. The depot is one of the few public buildings left from the years when railroads connected Brookdale farmers to distant markets. Saving it would protect a place where residents can see how transportation changed local work and trade. A restored depot could also hold student exhibits, community meetings, and oral-history recordings from longtime residents there.
- ② Demolishing the depot would remove evidence that cannot be replaced. Old photographs show passengers, mail sacks, and farm goods moving through its doors, but photographs cannot show the building's size, materials, or location beside the tracks. Restoration would cost money, yet the council can seek state preservation grants and ask local volunteers to help collect stories and artifacts. A parking lot could be built elsewhere, while the original depot can remain a shared link to Brookdale's past.
- ③ For these reasons, the council should vote to restore the 1912 depot and make it useful to the public. This choice protects direct evidence of Brookdale's railroad era, gives students a place to investigate local history, and creates space for residents to share memories. A parking lot may be convenient, but it cannot teach future residents why the railroad mattered. Restoring the depot is the stronger long-term decision because it serves today's community while guarding an important part of its story.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What final action does the writer want the council to take?

2 What words at the start of paragraph 3 show that the writer is drawing a conclusion from earlier reasons?

3 Give two reasons from paragraph 3 that support restoring the depot.

4 How does the sentence about the parking lot help support the writer's conclusion?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Your town plans to replace an 1890 schoolhouse with a storage shed. Write a three-sentence conclusion arguing that the town should preserve the schoolhouse. State your recommendation, connect it to two reasons, and end by explaining why the choice matters for the future.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In paragraph 3, underline the council's final recommendation, circle the words that signal a conclusion, and number the three reasons that support the recommendation. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What final action does the writer want the council to take?	The council should vote to restore the 1912 train depot and make it useful to the public.
2	What words at the start of paragraph 3 show that the writer is drawing a conclusion from earlier reasons?	For these reasons.
3	Give two reasons from paragraph 3 that support restoring the depot.	It protects evidence of the railroad era, gives students a place to investigate local history, and gives residents space to share memories. Any two are correct.
4	How does the sentence about the parking lot help support the writer's conclusion?	It admits that a parking lot could be convenient, then explains that it cannot teach future residents why the railroad mattered.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The town should preserve the 1890 schoolhouse and use it as a local history center. Its classrooms can help students learn how education has changed, and residents can share family records connected to the building. By protecting this evidence of the past, the town gives future residents a place to understand their community.

Accept conclusions that clearly restate a position, connect to relevant reasons, and close by showing why the decision matters. Student wording and order of reasons may vary.