

End With Impact

Read how a conclusion grows from an explanation.

L6-8WHST2.f "Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the concluding section of the passage. Then number two earlier details that support its main idea.

The Erie Canal Changes New York

- ① In 1825, the Erie Canal opened across New York State, linking the Hudson River near Albany to Lake Erie at Buffalo. Before the canal, moving goods between the Atlantic coast and the Great Lakes was slow and expensive. Wagons crossed rough roads, and boats had to travel farther routes. The canal was 363 miles long and included locks, devices that raised or lowered boats as water levels changed. Its route gave farmers and merchants a new path to markets.
- ② Canal traffic changed trade quickly. A trip from Buffalo to New York City that had taken weeks could be completed in about eight days. Shipping costs also fell sharply, so western farmers could sell grain and other products in eastern cities. Towns such as Rochester grew beside the canal, where mills, stores, and warehouses served travelers and businesses. New York City received more goods and became an even more important port. The canal also brought settlers and investment to western New York.
- ③ The canal did not solve every transportation problem. It needed frequent repairs, and railroads later moved people and freight faster. Still, the canal's lower costs and quicker travel connected farms, towns, and ports in new ways. It helped New York become a center of trade and encouraged the growth of communities along its route. The Erie Canal therefore changed more than travel. By making trade easier and linking regions, it helped shape New York's economy during the nineteenth century.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which two sentences make up the concluding section? Copy them.

2 Name two earlier details that support the conclusion that the canal helped shape New York's economy.

3 How does the word "therefore" show that the final two sentences are a conclusion?

4 Does the concluding section introduce a new topic or bring together earlier information? Use one detail from the passage to explain.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Use these facts about the first transcontinental railroad: railroad lines met at Promontory Summit, Utah, in 1869, and the route helped people and goods cross the country faster than many earlier overland trips. Write exactly three sentences explaining its effect on trade. Your third sentence must begin with "Therefore," and state a conclusion that follows from the facts.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the concluding section of the passage. Then number two earlier details that support its main idea. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two sentences make up the concluding section? Copy them.	"The Erie Canal therefore changed more than travel. By making trade easier and linking regions, it helped shape New York's economy during the nineteenth century."
2	Name two earlier details that support the conclusion that the canal helped shape New York's economy.	Answers may include lower shipping costs, an eight-day Buffalo-to-New York City trip, growth of canal towns, more goods reaching New York City, or settlers and investment moving to western New York.
3	How does the word "therefore" show that the final two sentences are a conclusion?	It signals that the final idea follows from the facts and explanations given earlier.
4	Does the concluding section introduce a new topic or bring together earlier information? Use one detail from the passage to explain.	It brings together earlier information. For example, it connects the earlier facts about lower costs and faster travel to the idea that trade between regions became easier.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In 1869, railroad lines met at Promontory Summit, Utah, completing the first transcontinental railroad. The new route helped people and goods cross the country faster than many earlier overland trips. Therefore, the railroad made trade between distant regions easier.

Accept conclusions that clearly follow from both stated facts and explain an effect on trade. The third sentence should begin with "Therefore," and should synthesize rather than merely repeat a fact.