# The Last Word

See how a conclusion brings an idea together

**C.5.1.e** "Provide a concluding section."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** In the last paragraph, underline the sentence that repeats the main request, circle two benefits brought back from earlier paragraphs, and write 1 beside the sentence that asks readers to take action. Notice how these parts work together to end the piece.

### A Shelf for Sharing Stories

1. Imagine finishing a book and having no place to put it except a crowded shelf at home. Another student might be looking for that very book. Our school could set up a book swap shelf near the library. Students would leave books they have finished and choose books that interest them. A simple shelf could help more stories find new readers.

2. A swap shelf would make reading choices easier to find. A student who likes mysteries could pick one up without waiting for a class trip to the library. The shelf would also give finished books another turn in someone's hands instead of letting them gather dust. To keep it useful, students could bring only books in good condition, and a teacher could check the shelf each week.

3. Let's give our school a book swap shelf so more students can find something they want to read. It would offer more reading choices and put finished books back into use. We do not need a huge project to begin. A small shelf near the library and a teacher to check the books would be enough. Let's ask our principal this week if we can get started.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What request does the conclusion repeat?

2. Which two benefits from the earlier paragraphs does the conclusion bring back?

3. What does the final sentence ask readers to do? Why is it a useful ending?

4. Which two details in the conclusion show that the swap shelf could be a small project?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you wrote a piece asking your school to plant a tree near the playground because its shade could cool a sitting area and its leaves could help students observe the seasons. Write a three- or four-sentence conclusion that repeats your request, brings back both reasons, and ends with a specific next step, without adding a new reason.

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## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In the last paragraph, underline the sentence that repeats the main request, circle two benefits brought back from earlier paragraphs, and write 1 beside the sentence that asks readers to take action. Notice how these parts work together to end the piece. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | What request does the conclusion repeat? | **The writer asks the school to set up a book swap shelf.** |
| 2 | Which two benefits from the earlier paragraphs does the conclusion bring back? | **Students would have more reading choices, and finished books would be used again.** |
| 3 | What does the final sentence ask readers to do? Why is it a useful ending? | **It asks readers to speak to the principal this week. It gives them a specific next step.** |
| 4 | Which two details in the conclusion show that the swap shelf could be a small project? | **It could be a small shelf near the library, and a teacher could check the books.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our school should plant a tree near the playground. As it grows, its shade could make a place to sit more comfortable, and its leaves could help us notice how the seasons change. Planting a tree would make the playground a place to learn as well as rest. Let's ask the principal where we could plant one.

For the marking job, accept the first sentence underlined, the two benefits in the second sentence circled, and a 1 beside the final sentence. For Your Turn, accept any conclusion that meets all four requirements without adding a new reason.