

Beyond the Finish

Trace how a narrative ending connects an outcome to a lesson.

7W3.e "Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the final paragraph. Circle two details in it that show what Maya learned or plans to do because of the race.

The Pond Race

- ① On Saturday, Maya carried her solar-powered model boat to the pond behind the library. She had spent two weeks building it for the science club race, sealing the wooden hull with clear tape and testing the tiny motor in her sink. At the water's edge, she set the boat down, expecting it to glide past the orange buoy. Instead, a gust pushed it sideways, and the boat bumped against a muddy rock. The motor stopped with a faint click.
- ② Maya wanted to quit, but her friend Leon handed her a paper towel and asked what the boat needed. Maya lifted the hull and saw that a twig had wedged beside the propeller. After she removed it, she noticed a loose wire near the battery. Leon held the boat steady while she tightened the connection with a small screwdriver. This time, when Maya released it, the boat moved forward, making a narrow V in the water.
- ③ By the race's start, Maya's boat did not cross the pond fastest, but it reached the buoy and returned without stopping. As she packed her tools, she thought about the muddy rock and the problem she had almost ignored. The delay had taught her to look closely before deciding that a project had failed. She left the pond with a third-place ribbon and a plan to test each part of her next boat outdoors, where surprises could teach her something useful.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What outcome from the race does the final paragraph reveal? How does this outcome resolve Maya's problem?

2 Which earlier events does Maya reflect on when she thinks about the muddy rock and the problem she almost ignored?

3 What lesson does Maya state in the conclusion? Explain how it follows from her experience.

4 How does Maya's plan for her next boat show that the ending looks forward as well as back?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence conclusion to a narrative about completing a difficult task. Use 60 to 85 words, include the outcome, connect to one earlier moment, explain a lesson, and state one future action.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the final paragraph. Circle two details in it that show what Maya learned or plans to do because of the race. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What outcome from the race does the final paragraph reveal? How does this outcome resolve Maya's problem?	Maya's boat reaches the buoy and returns without stopping. This resolves the earlier problem because the boat had stopped after hitting the rock.
2	Which earlier events does Maya reflect on when she thinks about the muddy rock and the problem she almost ignored?	She reflects on the boat stopping after it hit the rock, then finding the twig by the propeller and the loose wire near the battery.
3	What lesson does Maya state in the conclusion? Explain how it follows from her experience.	She learns to look closely before deciding that a project has failed. She finds and fixes two specific problems after the boat stops.
4	How does Maya's plan for her next boat show that the ending looks forward as well as back?	She plans to test every part outdoors because the race taught her that outdoor surprises can reveal problems and teach her something useful.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

At the concert, I played the final chord without losing my place, even though my hands still shook. I remembered the measure I had missed during rehearsal and how I had slowed down instead of quitting. That mistake showed me that pausing to fix one problem can keep a larger one from falling apart. Before the next performance, I will practice the hardest measures slowly and ask someone to listen.

Accept equivalent answers that connect the ending to Maya's stopped boat, repairs, lesson, and future testing plan. For the open response, look for all four required parts in a logical conclusion, not a repeated summary of events.