

## Grade 7: Reflective Narrative Conclusions

*Aligns with CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.3.E:*

- Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

### Welcome

Most writers know that a narrative must have a clear beginning, middle, and end. The end of the story can seem obvious; it marks the end of the events or the action. However, it's important to write not just the end of the story but also a conclusion that effectively closes the story, follows logically from the beginning and the middle, and reflects on the experiences or events in the story. A narrative conclusion also offers writers the chance to explain to their readers the overall meaning and purpose of the story. One of the most effective techniques to complete this task is to reflect on the experience. This allows the reader to understand why the story or topic is important to the author, and why it should be important to readers as well. Without a conclusion, the story may end abruptly and leave the reader confused.

### Objectives

In this module, students will learn how to:

- provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

### Review

#### Key Terms

- A **conclusion** to a narrative is a final statement, paragraph, or idea. It tells what happens at the end of the story and also effectively closes the essay. It can also analyze, reflect, and explain how the events within the story have affected the main character's life or opinion on the overall topic.
- **Reflection** refers to deep thinking or consideration. Reflective writing explains how past experiences have changed, influenced, or affected the author.

### Watch!

Watch the following video for a reminder on how to write a strong conclusion in a narrative essay.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SOP6t54dzTU>



## Exploring the Standard

Writing narratives allows writers to make a point through storytelling. While the events in the story may be understandable and relatable, readers often look to the conclusion in order to understand the overall meaning or to make a connection with the writer's personal experiences.

When writing narrative conclusions, writers can ask the following questions as ways to develop a reflective, meaningful, and logical conclusion for their readers.

- What did I learn from the experience?
- How did this experience help shape who I am, or my ideas about the topic?
- What can others take away from my experience?
- How can I use this experience to help me and/or others in the future?

Once the writer answers these questions, he or she can reflect on the experiences and begin to explain the overall significance of the narrative.

### Read!

The following describes various ways to approach a narrative conclusion. Read the article, and think about how each technique would affect a narrative.

<http://classroom.synonym.com/good-way-end-narrative-paragraph-3733.html>

### A Closer Look: Providing a Conclusion that Reflects on the Experiences

A student needs to write a narrative essay that tells a story of an obstacle that she needed to overcome. The essay needs to conclude with what the experience taught her. In Example 1, the student decides to write about her experience of overcoming a fear of heights by going to the top of the Empire State Building in New York City while on vacation with their family. Read the following body paragraphs, which describe the series of events that make up the narrative.

