

Writing Lessons #2

Objective: To write a concluding paragraph.

- The *Conclusion* is as important as the *Lead* to a story. The writer must finish the story leaving the reader satisfied. The reader must feel as if he/she has had a full and sufficient meal. Many developing writers believe that if they can come up with an ending, they just write the words: THE END bigger and larger and they will have completed the writing satisfactorily. The conclusion is a part of the craft of writing. The painter must add the finishing touches to his/her great work of art. Shadows, highlights, and shading have all been added in the form of details and elaboration, but the signature at the bottom gives the viewer a sense of completeness.

Practice, practice, practice – is the advice of all great writers. Developing a concluding techniques unique to an individual’s style comes with lots of practice. Young writers must examine different ending strategies from accomplished authors. As they practice and shape their writing, they’ll mold their own unique ending style.

Examine works by several authors and create a list of ending strategies. The class should develop a Common Endings Chart such as the one listed as the **Common Narrative Endings** to use as a reference. (page 5-24)

- Display Sample of a Fourth Grader’s Concluding Paragraph about a *Field Trip*. Students discuss effectiveness of this story’s paragraph.
- Students review, revise, edit their previous day’s writing.
- Students circle the Concluding sections of their graphic organizer. Remind students to include dialogue that suits the content.

