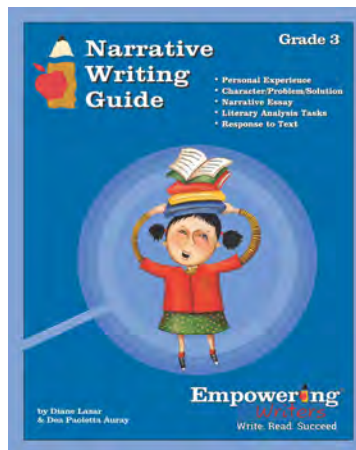




Grade 3 Narrative Writing Guide

Student Pages for Print or Projection

SECTION 6: Endings



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Name _____

ANALYZE THIS ENDING! (1)

Read this story ending.

- Underline the main character’s memories of the main event in BLUE.
- Underline the main character’s feelings about the main event in RED.
- Underline a decision that the main character made in BLACK.
- Underline the main character’s hope or wish in GREEN.

Doris the cat purred happily and curled up in the sunny window. She shivered a little when she thought about how long she’d lived in the streets as a skinny, stray cat. But that was then. Now she knew she would never again choose to wander about chasing mice like she used to. It would be fancy cat food for her from now on, served in a fancy glass bowl. As old Mrs. Winn patted her soft coat, Doris stretched and hoped that life would always be this good!

THINK ABOUT IT:

What do you think this story was about? Use this ending to summarize what probably took place in the story!

Name _____

ANALYZE THIS ENDING! (2)

Read this story ending.

- Underline the main character’s memories of the main event in BLUE.
- Underline the main character’s feelings about the main event in RED.
- Underline a decision that the main character made in BLACK.
- Underline the main character’s hope or wish in GREEN
- Underline the main character’s defining action in YELLOW.

Wiping the dust off my pants, I breathed a sigh of relief. Taking off my helmet and picking up my bike, I suddenly realized what could have happened out on the trail today. The mountain was steep and the trail was narrow where I had gone off. Remembering that tumble down the cliff made my stomach uneasy. I never want to veer off the path like that again. Next time, I will follow my dad and listen to his advice.

THINK ABOUT IT:

What do you think this story was about? Use this ending to summarize what probably took place in the story!

Name _____

ANALYZE THIS ENDING! (3)

Read this story ending.

- Underline the main character’s memories of the main event in BLUE.
- Underline the main character’s feelings about the main event in RED.
- Underline a decision that the main character made in BLACK.
- Underline the main character’s hope or wish in GREEN
- Underline the main character’s defining action in YELLOW.

That was the best summer ever, I thought. The games, archery, swimming and hiking at sleep-away camp certainly kept me busy. The best part was all the new friends I made. Next year I’m going for a whole month, not just two weeks. I put my gear into the car and settled in for the ride home with a smile on my face.

THINK ABOUT IT:

What do you think this story was about? Use this ending to summarize what probably took place in the story!

Name _____

ANALYZE THIS ENDING! (4)

Read this story ending.

- Underline the main character’s memories of the main event in BLUE.
- Underline the main character’s feelings about the main event in RED.
- Underline a decision that the main character made in BLACK.
- Underline the main character’s hope or wish in GREEN
- Underline the main character’s defining action in YELLOW.

Jared tucked his shirt back in and flung his jacket over his shoulder. Yawning, he sat down heavily on the nearest chair. Being part of the wedding was special but a little stressful. All those eyes on you the whole time you’re walking down the aisle. He’ll always remember the rings nearly sliding out of the box as he tripped on the carpet. Good thing he was able to catch himself and straighten up before walking on. The next time he is asked to be part of a wedding, he’ll be sure to watch his step.

THINK ABOUT IT:

What do you think this story was about? Use this ending to summarize what probably took place in the story!

Name _____

EXTEND THIS ENDING! (1)

REMEMBER: Story endings should sum up the story and show how the main character has grown and changed. Extended endings often include:

- A memory - What do you remember most?
- A feeling - How did you feel after everything that happened?
- A decision - What did you decide to do after everything that happened?
- A wish or hope - What did you wish or hope for?
- A defining action - What did you do to show how you felt, or what you decided?

Read this story summary:

This is a story about a time I won the sand sculpture contest at the beach.

Now read the way the author ended the story. It is abrupt and unsatisfying.

I can't believe I won! THE END

REVISE this story ending. Include the main character's memories, feelings, decisions, hopes, or wishes.

Name _____

EXTEND THIS ENDING! (2)

REMEMBER: Story endings should sum up the story and show how the main character has grown and changed. Extended endings often include:

- A memory - What do you remember most?
- A feeling - How did you feel after everything that happened?
- A decision - What did you decide to do after everything that happened?
- A wish or hope - What did you wish or hope for?
- A defining action - What did you do to show how you felt, or what you decided?

Read this story summary:

This is a story of the night I made smores for the first time around the campfire.

Now read the way the author ended the story. It is abrupt and unsatisfying.

The smores were delicious! THE END

REVISE this story ending. Include the main character’s memories, feelings, decisions, hopes, or wishes.

Name _____

EXTEND THIS ENDING! (3)

REMEMBER: Story endings should sum up the story and show how the main character has grown and changed. Extended endings often include:

- A memory - What do you remember most?
- A feeling - How did you feel after everything that happened?
- A decision - What did you decide to do after everything that happened?
- A wish or hope - What did you wish or hope for?
- A defining action - What did you do to show how you felt, or what you decided?

Read this story summary:

This is a story about James the day he leaped from the dock right into the water.

Now read the way the author ended the story. It is abrupt and unsatisfying.

What a great jump! James had so much fun. THE END

REVISE this story ending. Include the main character’s memories, feelings, decisions, hopes, or wishes.

Name _____

EXTEND THIS ENDING! (4)

REMEMBER: Story endings should sum up the story and show how the main character has grown and changed. Extended endings often include:

- A memory - What do you remember most?
- A feeling - How did you feel after everything that happened?
- A decision - What did you decide to do after everything that happened?
- A wish or hope - What did you wish or hope for?
- A defining action - What did you do to show how you felt, or what you decided?

Read this story summary:

This is the story about my trip to Iceland to see the Northern Lights.

Now read the way the author ended the story. It is abrupt and unsatisfying.

**The Northern Lights were the coolest things I ever saw!
THE END**

REVISE this story ending. Include the main character’s memories, feelings, decisions, hopes, or wishes.

Name _____

EXTEND THIS ENDING! - MAKE-IT-YOUR-OWN

REMEMBER: Story endings should sum up the story and show how the main character has grown and changed. Extended endings often include:

- A memory - What do you remember most?
- A feeling - How did you feel after everything that happened?
- A decision - What did you decide to do after everything that happened?
- A wish or hope - What did you wish or hope for?
- A defining action - What did you do to show how you felt, or what you decided?

Write a story summary:

Now write a boring story ending.

REVISE this story ending. Include the main character's memories, feelings, decisions, hopes, or wishes.

Name _____

Read this retelling of the story of "Little Red Riding Hood." The ending is abrupt and unsatisfying. Instead of the usual, "and they lived happily ever after" ending, write an extended ending. Include Little Red Riding Hood's memories and feelings about the main event, and any decisions, wishes, or hopes she has as a result.

Little Red Riding Hood

"I'll take the basket of food to Grandmother's house!" said Little Red Riding Hood. She took the basket, kissed her mother goodbye, and headed out.

"Remember," called her mother, "Stay on the path and don't dilly-dally!"

Little Red Riding Hood sighed. Her mother was such a worry-wart! "Okay, Mom," she answered as she started down the forest path.

"La-de-da-de-da," she sang as she skipped along the path through the forest. The sun peeked through the tall trees. Birds chirped and small animals scurried around in the underbrush. Little Red Riding Hood sniffed at the fresh forest air. "Mmmm..." she said, "I think I smell lilacs!" She looked around until she saw the purple fluffy flowers on a bush quite a ways off the path. Even though she knew she shouldn't, Little Red went off the path to pick some fragrant lilacs for her Granny. What she didn't know was that she was not alone! A big bad wolf was watching her, licking his chops and thinking about what a fine lunch she would make. He stepped out from the underbrush.

"Hello, Missy," he said. "Lovely day for a walk!"

Little Red did not want to seem rude. "Yes it is," she said politely. "It is a perfect day for bringing lunch to my poor old Granny!"

The Big Bad Wolf nodded. A perfect day for gobbling up a silly girl, her poor old Granny, and a basket of lunch besides, he thought. That's when he had a brainstorm!

"Tootle-loo then," he called and pretended to go on his merry way. But instead, he made his way to Granny's cottage, gobbled Granny up and hopped into her bed. He pulled on poor Granny's ruffled night cap that hung on the bed post, and yanked the lacy covers up to his hairy old chin. He licked his chops and said, "That was quite a good first course. I can hardly wait for the main dish!" He burped and settled down to wait.

Soon enough, Little Red came skipping up the path. "Hello Granny," she called. She ran inside and peered at her Granny. Granny looked much worse than Little Red expected. Her nose seemed long, her chin seemed hairy, and her eyes seemed shifty and bloodshot. "You look terrible, Granny!" said Little Red.

"Nonsense," whispered the Big Bad Wolf, "come closer and let your old Granny get a look at you!" Little Red came to Granny's bedside. The closer she got, the worse Granny looked. "Your eyes look so shifty and bloodshot," said Little Red.

Her Granny laughed. "The better to see you with muffin," she said.

(continued)

Her laugh sent a shiver down Little Red's spine.

"And your ears," said Little Red, noticing how Granny's ears seemed to stick up under her nightcap. "Your ears seem gigantic!"

"The better to hear you with, cupcake," said the Big Bad Wolf. He said it in a dribbly kind of voice because his mouth was watering.

Little Red Riding Hood thought that Granny must be quite ill. That was when she noticed her teeth. Quite yellow, they were, and awfully long and pointy.

"Granny," said Little Red, "I think you ought to brush and floss a bit better. Your teeth don't look very good at all."

That was when the wolf jumped out of the bed.

"These teeth may not be brushed, and they may not be flossed, but they're good enough to eat you with!" he shrieked.

Realizing what had happened, Little Red knocked him over the head with the basket and turned to run. But the Big Bad Wolf was not about to let his main course get away that easily. He grabbed her, and swallowed her in one gulp.

"Yum, yum, yum," he said as he polished off his dessert in the basket.

Meanwhile, Little Red and Granny were squeezed pretty tightly in the belly of the wolf. And they were both more than a little annoyed.

"Let's teach him a lesson," said Granny. With that, the two of them began kicking their feet, thrashing their arms, and yelling at the top of their lungs.

Making his way through the forest, the Big Bad Wolf suddenly didn't feel very well. "I don't think my meal is agreeing with me," he moaned.

A woodsman passed him by and was quite amazed at the way his belly was popping and bopping. He also heard a strange muffled noise.

"Yo, Mr. Wolf," said the woodsman, "I've never seen a wolf belly dance before. And I've never heard a stomach growl like that either."

The wolf didn't answer, so the woodsman came closer. He was amazed to find that the stomach growling he heard was even stranger than he'd thought. He grabbed the wolf, bent over his popping, bopping belly and strained his ears.

"Help! Help!" growled the stomach. "The wolf has swallowed us whole!"

The wolf groaned. "Help me!" he begged. "I think I bit off more than I can chew!"

With that, the woodsman grabbed the wolf below his ribs, made a fist with his hand, and gave several big yanks. "Don't worry wolf," he said, "I learned this in first aid. It's called the Heimlich Maneuver. You'll be good as new in no time."

And, after five or six big Heimlich yanks, out popped Little Red. After five or six more, out popped Granny. (The wolf ran off, Granny went home, and Little Red thanked the woodsman and went home. THE END)

Name _____

BEFORE AND AFTER REVISION ACTIVITY (1) - ENDINGS

Read this story **ending**. It is abrupt and does not leave the reader with a sense of satisfaction. It is BORING!

So that's the story of the day I went to work with my dad. THE END.

Revise this by writing an **extended story ending**.

Include at least 3 of the following:

- A memory of the day at work with dad.
- A hope or wish that resulted from the experience.
- The main character's feelings about the experience.
- A decision that the main character makes.
- A defining action that shows how the main character feels.

Name _____

BEFORE AND AFTER REVISION ACTIVITY (2) - ENDINGS

Read this story **ending**. It is abrupt and does not leave the reader with a sense of satisfaction. It is BORING!

We were sad when the ant invasion ended our picnic. THE END.

Revise this by writing an **extended story ending**.

Include at least 3 of the following:

- A memory of the picnic.
- A hope or wish that resulted from the experience.
- The main character's feelings about the experience.
- A decision that the main character makes.
- A defining action that shows how the main character feels.

Name _____

BEFORE AND AFTER REVISION ACTIVITY (3) - ENDINGS

Read this story **ending**. It is abrupt and does not leave the reader with a sense of satisfaction. It is BORING!

That was the end of the day I spent with my cousins. THE END.

Revise this by writing an **extended story ending**.

Include at least 3 of the following:

- A memory of the day spent with cousins.
- A hope or wish that resulted from the experience.
- The main character's feelings about the experience.
- A decision that the main character makes.
- A defining action that shows how the main character feels.

Name _____

Revenge!

Splish! Splash! Sparks of water flew up all around me as I cannonballed into the pool. Brian was right behind me. As he hit the water, another fountain of the cool pool water shot into the air. Of course, we had an argument about who'd made the bigger splash, but it was all in good fun. There was nothing I liked better than spending a sunny afternoon playing in Brian's pool. For as long as I could remember, he and I had been not only next-door neighbors, but best friends.

I guess our neighborhood could be described as typical. The houses were not big or fancy, but just the right size for our families. Most of them had small yards with neatly mowed lawns, trimmed hedges and colorful flower gardens. From the outside, Brian's house looked just as ordinary as the others, but behind a tall white fence in the backyard was the biggest, clearest pool I'd ever swam in. Brian was lucky to have such a luxury shimmering like an aquamarine gem right at his fingertips; I was equally lucky that he was so generous about sharing it with me.

It was about a week before school started that trouble between us reared its ugly head. Brian and I decided that we'd have a back-to-school celebration and invite all of the kids from our class over for one last wet and wild pool party. On the day of the party, Brian's father cut slices from a big, cold watermelon while my mom took control of the grill. Other parents would be bringing treats, like cupcakes and chips with dips, and we would have a feast!

Brian and I were busy making water balloons when our first guest arrived. It was Adam, a friend of ours, whom we hadn't seen all summer long. He had brought his super soaker, a big bright yellow water gun, with him and it was

filled and chilled. By 2, the party was in full swing and it was time to break out the water balloons! Yelps of joy filled the air as we dumped a black trash bag full of water balloons into the pool. Water balloons of every color were flying. Kids were splashing and diving under the water to escape them. One exploded with a splat on the deck near the picnic table, which was by now filled with food for our picnic.

“Careful,” called Brian’s dad.

Nobody seemed to hear him. I had a water balloon in each hand and was ready to launch them when I noticed that Adam and Brian were huddled in a corner of the pool, whispering to each other and obviously hatching some kind of a plan. I threw a water balloon at each. My aim was couldn’t have been better.

We’d used up most of the water balloons, but I saw one floating near the corner where Adam and Brian were treading water. I swam underwater to grab it, but Brian beat me to it and when I surfaced, he hit me square in the face with it. Then, Adam aimed his super soaker at me and shouted “Revenge on you, Mike!” A stream of icy water hit my face. I was shivering and the water was stinging my eyes as I retreated. But they followed me, Brian launching the last of the water balloons at me and Adam using the super soaker. Suddenly, it didn’t seem friendly. Why was Brian siding with Adam against me? I felt a rush of real anger toward Adam.

I had to defend myself. There were no more water bombs, so I hopped out of the pool and turned on the hose. Shouting “Revenge,” I aimed it at my friends!

(continued)



“That’s enough!” Brian’s dad yelled, yanking the hose away from me. I guess Adam didn’t hear him, because he fired his super soaker at me once again. I dodged the stream of water and it hit the picnic table. In the blink of an eye, all of our food was drenched!

The fun was over. Brian’s dad was furious and Brian blamed me for ruining the pool party.

I couldn’t sleep that night as I thought about what had happened. It wasn’t like me to get so rowdy. I realized that I’d been feeling betrayed when Brian and Adam paired up against me, but the truth was we all were just trying to have fun. I felt ashamed of myself and knew that Brian and I could both have other friends and still stay best buddies. Would I ever let myself get out of control like that again? No way! I just hoped I could make amends with Brian and his family.

Name _____

LITERARY ANALYSIS TASK: EXTENDED ENDINGS

EXTENDED ENDING: In the ending of a story, the author shows how the main character grows or changes from the beginning of the story.

You've read the story, Revenge! where the main character learns a lesson. Write an essay to explain what lesson he learned. Provide evidence from the story to support your ideas.

THINK ABOUT IT: Is this a narrative or informational assignment?

1. As a class, read, annotate, analyze, and summarize the story.
2. Fill in the following:
 - Who is the main **point of view character**? _____
 - What is the **setting**? _____

 - What is the main character's **motivation**? What does she/he **want**? _____

 - What is the **conflict**? (Who or what stands in the way of the main character's motivation?) _____
 - Fill in the summarizing framework that outlines the **plot**.

This story is about _____ .
The problem / adventure / experience _____ .
The problem was solved, experience or adventure concluded when _____ .

- What is the **theme**? _____
3. Consider the task:
 - Did the main character learn a lesson? How do you know this?
 - What words, phrases and sentences did the author use to show how the main character changed or learned a lesson?
 - Why did the author choose these words and phrases?

4. Your teacher will MODEL this process with you. You may use the sentence starters to help you cite examples in the source text.

SENTENCE STARTERS:

- The reader discovers that_____.
- In the beginning the character was _____.
- At the end the character _____.
- The lesson learned was _____.
- The author chose this because _____.
- We see that_____.
- The author reveals_____.
- In this story_____.
- The reader finds this when_____.
- In the story, evidence suggests that_____.
- It isn't long before we discover_____.
- Through the text we learn that_____.
- In paragraph _____ we see that _____.
- We know this because _____.
- We see this when_____.

Name _____

NARRATIVE EXTENSION TASK: EXTENDED ENDINGS

You've read the story Revenge! In this story, the main character has grown and changed from the beginning to the end. Think about how the main character changed and how this will affect the following day. Write an extended ending for the main character the following day.

THINK ABOUT IT: Based on the story, Revenge!, how does the main character act the following day? What kind of wish, hope, or decisions will he/she make based on the new learning?

- REMEMBER:** Use the productive questions to fully elaborate your Extended Ending:
- **MEMORY:** What did you remember most?
 - **FEELING:** How did you feel about the experience?
 - **HOPE/WISH:** What did you hope or wish for?
 - **DECISION:** What did you decide?
 - **DEFINING ACTION:** What did you DO?

