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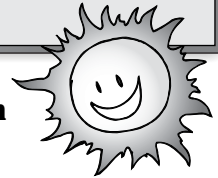
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Creating a Story Ending



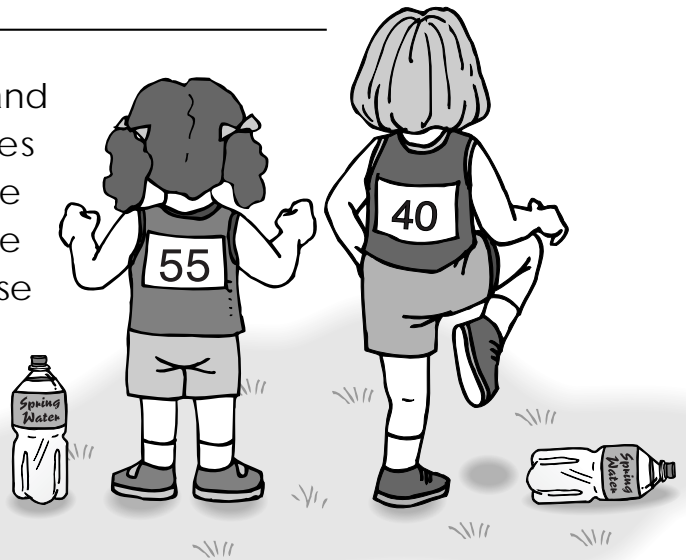
A story is often made up of a conflict or a situation that needs to be solved. A story ending is the part of the story where the problem or conflict is finally solved. Often, suspense or a series of events is used to build towards a story ending.

- A. Below is a story about a track and field event. Provide an ending paragraph for the story in the space provided. Add a title that suits your ending.**



Title: _____

The mid-June day of the final track and field meet was met by temperatures approaching 30°C. The air was still and the scorching sun blazed down on the competitors who huddled under the sparse trees for shade. Litres of water were being consumed by the athletes before competing. Some just poured the water over their heads in a vain attempt at momentary relief.



Lisa, an 11-year-old sprinter, was the one hope her school had of bringing home a ribbon. She specialized in the 200-metre race, a race that demanded endurance and strategy. Small in size, she was big in heart, and her legs were like pistons pumping fiercely when she ran. Lisa had placed first in the divisional race and second in the regional where she was defeated by a mere 2 seconds by her main competitor, another 11-year-old runner named Jennifer. Jennifer was a tall girl with long legs that enabled her to run in steady, loping strides. Both runners were fierce competitors and superb athletes. Both were determined to win.

The announcement came for the 200-metre final – runners were asked to report to the starter. There was a swell of spectators gathering at the finish line anticipating a spectacular finish. Lisa and Jennifer set themselves into the starting blocks staring straight ahead. They arched their backs and lowered their heads. The starter raised the pistol, and at the sound of the shot, they were off – the championship race was on.

30 metres into the race, Lisa and Jennifer, neck and neck, had jumped out to an insurmountable lead over the other runners. The rest of the field were now

The Parts of a Story



Setting

The setting of a story refers to the time and place in which the story takes place.

B. State two facts about the setting that are known to the reader immediately.

1. _____
2. _____



Characters

Characters in a story can be divided into two basic categories:

- (a) **Major characters:** They are usually directly involved in the action or conflict.
- (b) **Minor characters:** They have limited involvement in the story; sometimes they deliver messages or interact with the major characters to help move the story along.

C. Who are the major and minor characters in this story?

Major: _____

Minor: _____



Descriptions

A writer will use descriptions to help the reader visualize the setting, the characters, and the action in the story.

D. State four descriptions that you think are effective.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



Plot

Plot refers to the main action that takes place in the story. The plot usually follows a path of development from beginning to end.

E. Describe the plot of this story.



Conflict

Conflict often forms the basis of a story. It may involve two persons against each other, a character fighting against himself/herself (decision making), or a character facing nature.

F. State the central conflict in this story.



Suspense

Suspense is a technique of writing that "suspends" the reader by holding back information or by giving only partial information to build the ending.

G. Describe the suspense in this story.

H. Is the suspense effective? Explain why or why not.
