

Lesson 5: The Last Laugh

UNIT: Funny Memories

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne.

I love to hear about other people's favorite funny memories. They always make me smile and laugh. One of my friends once told me about his favorite memory.

One time, he participated in a boat race. But not just any boat race. In this race, everyone has to build their own boat using nothing but cardboard and tape. Sometimes the cardboard boats work really well; other times, not so much. But that's all part of the fun. Let's watch how my friend did in the race. He designed his boat to have a big turkey head on the front. Take a look.

"Let's see if he can even get in. That's it. There he goes. There goes Uncle Trev. At least we can see this capsizing."

Oh, no! Well, he didn't win, but he still had a great time. My friend loves this memory, and he likes to tell the story all the time.

Just like you, he's writing his story so he can share it with even more people. In his story, he wrote a beginning—all about getting ready for the boat race. Then he wrote the middle of the story—how he fell out of the boat—and then he wrote the end—how he took his boat back to shore.

My friend said that he wants to add a final sentence to his writing to share why this story is so important to him, but he isn't sure what to write. There are so many things that make this story important to him.

He tried writing a few final sentences to see which one he liked best. He tried writing a sentence about what has changed, a piece of advice, and a feeling. After he tries writing all three sentences, he'll pick his favorite to be the final sentence of his story.

He tried ending with what has changed or what is new ever since that moment. He realized that before this experience, he was really confident about his boat, but now he knows they're not so trustworthy. He wrote, "Ever since then, I know to never trust a cardboard boat."

Next, he tried ending with a piece of advice: "If you ever enter a cardboard boat race, be ready to get wet."

He also wants to try ending with a feeling. Take a look at my friend again at the end of the race. Take a look at how he was feeling at the end.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: How do you think my friend was feeling at the end of the race?

HOOK 2

Maybe he was feeling proud or happy or thrilled, or something else. Maybe he could write, "I didn't win, but I still felt proud of how far I got."

These three strategies are great options for how to end a story. You can end with what has changed, a piece of advice, or a feeling.

You're writing a story too, for the Funny Memories Writing Festival. So far, you've written a beginning, a middle, and now it's time for the end.

Today, you'll write the end of your story. You can include what happened after the event, and try out a few final sentences to share why your memory is important to you.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

Get your "Plan" worksheet. Read the "What happened after?" section of your plan. This part will become the end of your story.

When you're done reading, give a silent thumbs up.

STEP 3

Now it's time to write the end of your story. Get your End worksheet and your Timeline worksheet. You can use your Plan and your "Transition Phrases" from your Timeline worksheet to help write what happened after your event.

Take each detail from your Plan and use it to write a sentence. You can add more sentences if you want. Don't worry about the final sentence yet. We'll write that later on.

Begin writing at the rainbow.

STEP 4

Find the "Practice" section of your End worksheet. We'll try writing three final sentences, and then you can pick which one you like the best. The first strategy you can try is to end with what has changed.

Find the "Ever since then" section of your plan. If you want, you can copy the sentence you planned onto your End worksheet here, or you can complete the sentence in a different way.

STEP 5

Another strategy is to end with a piece of advice for your reader. Think about your story and what a reader might learn. It's okay if the advice is a little silly.

Write the advice you would like to give here. If you want, you can use one of these sentences to get started.

STEP 6

The last strategy is to share how you felt at the very end of your story. Write a sentence about how you felt here.

STEP 7

It's time to decide. Read the end of your story so far and read your three final sentences. Circle the sentence you want to use as your final sentence.

STEP 8

Copy your final sentence onto the end of your story.

STEP 9

Amazing job, writers! You have a first draft of your story for the Funny Memories Writing Festival. This is called a first draft because you can still make changes to your writing. When you make changes to the words and sentences in your writing, it means you are revising your writing. Let's try revising altogether. To start, get these supplies.

You can put your Plan and your Timeline away for now.

STEP 10

When writers revise, they look for parts that they want to remove, add, or change.

Read your story starting at the beginning, then middle, and end. Along the way, if you find any parts that are missing or don't make sense, you can make changes. Here are a few revision ideas you can try.

WRAP UP

Fantastic job, writers! You have completed the first draft of your story for the Funny Memories Writing Festival. This festival is happening right here in your classroom. So soon enough, you can share your story and find out all the hilarious stories that your classmates wrote too.

In the next lesson, you'll edit your writing to get it ready to share. Then you'll make your funny memory storybook and share your story with others.

Make sure you put your V.I.P.s somewhere safe, and I'll see you next time.