4 Beginnings and endings that earn their place – Part 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	**Write it 3 times** (English)
Development	

Recall

- You have written an introduction that repeated the question.
- You know a conclusion that only summarises adds nothing.
- You have read an opening that made you want to continue.

New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

■ 1 What an introduction does

An introduction establishes the exigence, orients the reader, and states the thesis. Restating the prompt does none of the three.

Worked example. "Since the closure was announced last week…" orients and supplies the exigence in one clause.

■ 2 What a conclusion does

A conclusion should say what follows from the argument - the consequence, the limit, or the question it opens. Repeating the thesis in different words uses the space and adds nothing.

Worked example. "If this is right, the same decision is being made again in three other towns" extends rather than repeats.

■ 3 Development

Development means the argument gains something in each paragraph. An essay that states its thesis four times in four paragraphs has length without development.

Worked example. Four paragraphs that each add a different kind of support develop; four that restate the same point do not.

Watch out: A conclusion is not a summary. In a short essay the reader has not forgotten your argument, so restating it is the least useful thing the final paragraph could do.

Practice

2.1 State the three things an introduction should do. [3]

2.2 Explain why restating the prompt is not an introduction. [2]

2.3 State three things a conclusion can do instead of summarising. [3]

2.4 Define development. [1]

2.5 Explain why four paragraphs restating one point lack development. [2]