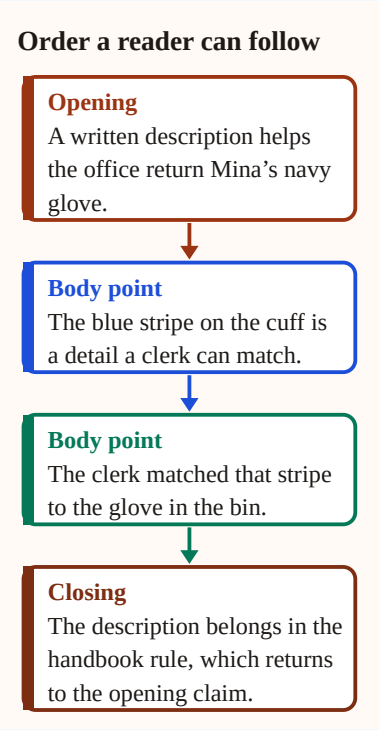
English Language Arts 10-1

Unit 4: Create and refine texts

Revising thought and order

An overgeneralized claim

- Mina lost her navy glove and wrote a description for the school office: navy, with a blue stripe on the cuff. The office clerk matched that stripe to a glove in the lost-and-found bin, and the glove came back to her. Now a classmate says, “Everyone loses gloves, so descriptions are useless.” Mina’s returned glove sits on her desk while she drafts a paragraph that answers that claim.
- Opening. A written description helps the office return Mina’s navy glove.
- Body point. The blue stripe on the cuff is a detail a clerk can match.
- Body point. The clerk matched that stripe to the glove in the bin.
- Closing. The description belongs in the handbook rule, which returns to the opening claim.



Revision goals

- The revised controlling idea is that a written description helps the office return a glove.
- The precise detail is a navy glove with a blue stripe on the cuff, matched by the clerk in the bin.
- The logical fallacy everyone loses gloves, so descriptions are useless, loses its force beside that one returned cuff.

Key terms

logical fallacy

A break in reasoning, such as claiming that everyone loses gloves, so descriptions are useless.

transition

A word or sentence that ties one point to the next, such as After Mina named the blue stripe.

closing

The ending that returns to the purpose with a finished understanding, such as the last line that keeps the description rule.

Evidence against an overgeneralization

- Mina replaces “a glove” with “a navy glove with a blue stripe on the cuff.”
- She writes that the clerk matched the stripe to the glove in the bin, so this description did its job.
- She sets the sentence “Everyone loses gloves, so descriptions are useless” beside the cuff and calls that leap a logical fallacy.

Paragraph order

- A classmate says, “Everyone loses gloves, so descriptions are useless.” On the desk is Mina’s navy glove with a blue stripe, the glove a clerk matched and returned.
- The opening says, “A written description helps the office return Mina’s navy glove.” Point one is the blue stripe. Point two is the clerk matching that stripe.
- The transition After Mina named the stripe ties the points, and the closing returns to the opening claim. The wide leap is a logical fallacy.

Practice with a response

- A draft about “The Song My Paddle Sings,” E. Pauline Johnson’s canoe poem, opens with a joke and ends with a new canoe fact from a website. The middle quotes nothing. The line on the desk is, “For soft is the song my paddle sings.”
- Revise the beginning so it quotes that line and names a reaction, revise the ending so it returns to the line, and add one transition.

Review

- A classmate says, “Every library book is overdue, so fines are useless,” after Mina paid a fine and got a novel back on Tuesday.
- Repair the leap with one precise detail, then sketch an opening, two points, a closing, and one transition.