

# Conclusions and Generalizations

Read the selection below.

## Waterpark Party

Janene slumped on her bed feeling very uncomfortable as her best friend, Tara, helped her pack.

Tara looked at her friend quizzically. "I don't understand why you're in such an awful mood. This party is going to be excellent!"

"Sure, I know it will be," Janene said as she attempted a smile.

"I'm so pumped because I've never been to an *indoor* waterpark before," Tara continued. "I had so much fun last summer at Summer Splash, I thought my legs would fall off from running from slide to slide and up the Giant Cyclone stairs so many times!"

"You know," Tara suddenly

recalled, "it was really peculiar that you were always sick when we invited you to come with us last year."

"You know," Janene interrupted, "all this packing might be for nothing because I think I might have a cold coming on." She coughed unconvincingly.

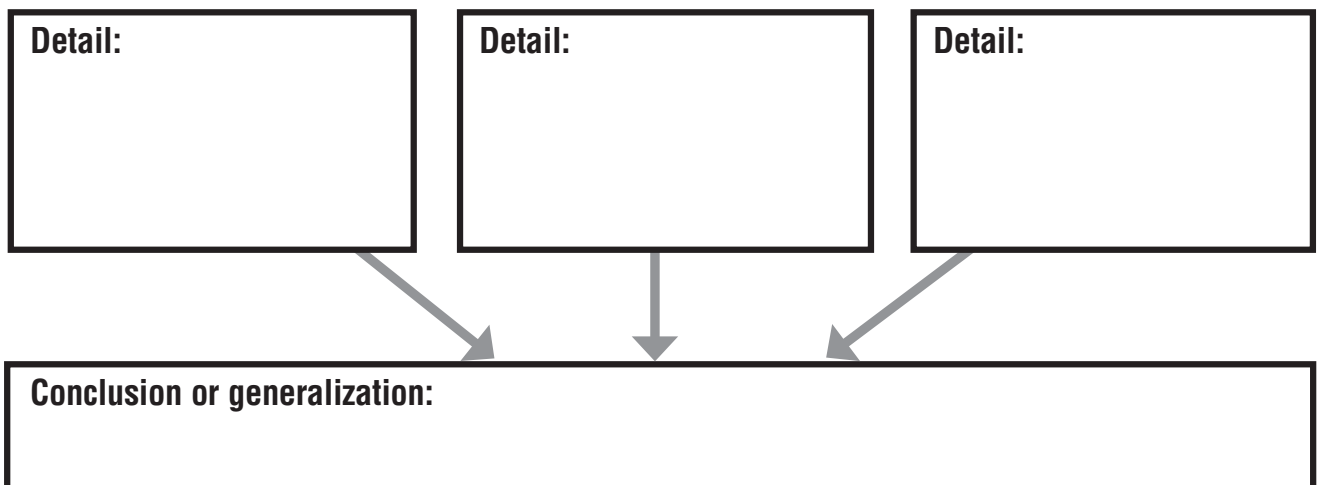
Tara groaned. "What is your problem? This will be a great party. Where's your swimsuit?"

"I don't know," sighed Janene. "Maybe it's packed away with my summer stuff in my closet."

Tara went to the closet and pulled out a life jacket. "What's this?"

Janene's face turned a bright shade of red at Tara's unexpected discovery.

Use the Inference Map to gather text details and determine the conclusions or generalizations that those details support.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Conclusions and Generalizations

## The Boy Who Saved Baseball

Comprehension:  
Conclusions and Generalizations

Read the selection below.

### What's Up, Jonah?

Jonah sat balancing on a basketball while he watched his friend Patrick tie his brand-new court shoes. Jonah wasn't his usual talkative self, and Patrick couldn't help but notice.

"What's the matter?" Patrick asked. "Were you up late last weekend watching that movie I told you about?" Jonah didn't answer. "You were so quiet today during English class, too," continued Patrick. He stood up, and then he tossed Jonah his extra granola bar. "Here, maybe you're hungry. You'll need your energy if you want to beat me at one-on-one today."

Jonah caught the granola bar and then began to study the wrapper intently.

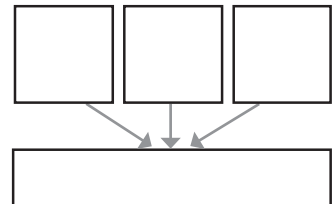
"I have some comics I could loan you if you're that desperate for reading material," Patrick joked.

"I just like to see what I'm putting into my body," Jonah said defensively. He put the granola bar down, "Thanks anyway, Patrick, but I can't eat this granola bar. I really shouldn't even be touching it."

"Boy, this is new. Are you worried about germs? Since when are you such a health nut?" Patrick asked.

"Since yesterday," replied Jonah. "I had a doctor's visit, and it's not the germs I'm worried about."

Complete an Inference Map to help you draw conclusions or make generalizations about Jonah. Then answer the questions below.



1. How does Jonah generally act around his friends?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What things did Jonah do and say that were out of the ordinary?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What conclusions could be drawn from Jonah's unusual behavior?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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# Using Context

**The Boy Who  
Saved Baseball**  
Vocabulary Strategies:  
Using Context

Read each sentence. Use context clues to figure out the meaning of the underlined word. Then write the meaning of the word on the lines.

1. Do you think Mason was trying to deceive me when he gave the wrong answers to my questions?

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2. My mother taught me to be polite and civil towards my elders.

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3. I thought the room in the picture was getting smaller, but it was only an optical illusion.

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4. The rider decided to mount the horse and practice riding once more before the show.

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5. I tried to enlist Sara's help on the project because she is such a good artist.

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# Words with *ie* or *ei*

## The Boy Who Saved Baseball

Spelling: Words with *ie* or *ei*

**Basic** Write the Basic Word that best belongs in each group.

1. recreational, relaxing, \_\_\_\_\_
2. mislead, betray, \_\_\_\_\_
3. cover, mask, \_\_\_\_\_
4. momentary, quick, \_\_\_\_\_
5. conviction, opinion, \_\_\_\_\_
6. snatch, clutch, \_\_\_\_\_
7. arrogant, vain, \_\_\_\_\_
8. rule, govern, \_\_\_\_\_
9. observe, notice, \_\_\_\_\_
10. goods, cargo, \_\_\_\_\_
11. pasture, meadow, \_\_\_\_\_
12. despair, sorrow, \_\_\_\_\_
13. pause, give up, \_\_\_\_\_
14. distant, far-off, \_\_\_\_\_
15. fierce, intense, \_\_\_\_\_

**Challenge** You have just been to see a famous magician perform. Write sentences describing the show. Use three Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

### Spelling Words

1. brief
2. field
3. reign
4. review
5. fiery
6. receipt
7. relieve
8. conceited
9. neither
10. foreign
11. grief
12. veil
13. freight
14. belief
15. deceive
16. yield
17. beige
18. perceive
19. seize
20. leisure

### Challenge

reprieve  
wield  
feign  
conceive  
retrieve

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# Spelling Word Sort

**The Boy Who Saved  
Baseball**

Spelling: Words with *ie* or *ei*

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<i>i</i> before <i>e</i>	
<i>ei</i> after <i>c</i>	
<i>ei</i> spells /ā/	
Other patterns	

## Spelling Words

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### Challenge

reprieve  
wield  
feign  
conceive  
retrieve

**Challenge** Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

**Connect to Reading** Look through *The Boy Who Saved Baseball*. Find more words that have the *ie* and *ei* spelling patterns on this page. Add them to your Word Sort.

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# Proofreading for Spelling

## The Boy Who Saved Baseball

Spelling: Words with *ie* or *ei*

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

Everyone has read a story about a great baseball team, firey competitors who seeze every opportunity on the baseball feild. Defeat is foriegn to them, but they aren't concieted in any way. My team wasn't like that.

I won't decieve you. We were the worst softball team in history. A review of our record takes no time at all. We lost 48 games. We won zero. We were successful at niether pitching nor hitting. Our uniforms were even baige! Nothing would releive our losing streak. Once, the opposing pitcher pitched a no-hitter! As far as I know, no other team in the history of slow-pitch softball has failed to get a single hit.

Our efforts didn't yeeld a single playoff slot. We finally called it quits after four years. And I had just bought a new glove! I should have saved the receit.

### Spelling Words

1. brief
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|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

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# Action Verbs

**The Boy Who Saved  
Baseball**

Grammar: Kinds of Verbs

An **action verb** is a word that shows action. It says what someone or something does or did. Action verbs tell what event or activity is happening or has already happened.

Char eats pizza.

We played kickball at the park on Saturday.



**Thinking Question**

*Which word shows action?*

**Activity Underline the action verb in each sentence.**

1. We walked from the auditorium to the baseball field.
2. I predict a win for the Cougars.
3. Gabe threw the opening pitch.
4. Keisha raced across the plate.
5. Rami pitched during the third inning.
6. We all cheer for the players.
7. Jack hits a home run.
8. Both teams played a great game.

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# Main and Helping Verbs

**The Boy Who Saved  
Baseball**

Grammar: Kinds of Verbs

The **main verb** in a sentence tells what the subject does or is.

You are jumping too high.

A **helping verb** helps the main verb show an action or make a statement. Some common helping verbs are *am, is, are, was, were, will, should, have, had, has, and can.*

You are jumping too high.

**Thinking Question**

*Which verb tells what the subject is or does, and which verb helps it?*

**Activity** Underline the main verb in each sentence. Circle any helping verbs.

1. The team has played well this season.
2. We have won most of our games.
3. I will leave at the end of the season.
4. I can watch the game at my house.
5. I am writing a paper tonight.
6. You should concentrate on the game.
7. You could catch that ball.
8. He should watch the ball.



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# Being and Linking Verbs

## The Boy Who Saved Baseball

Grammar: Kinds of Verbs

A **linking verb** links the subject of a sentence to a noun or adjective. A linking verb does not show action. It tells what someone or something is, was, or will be.

The coach looks happy today. (*Happy* describes *coach*.)

A **being verb** shows what the subject is or is like. A being verb is a kind of linking verb.

The coach is happy today.

### Thinking Question

What word or words link the subject with another word that describes or renames it?

**Activity Underline the being verb or linking verb in each sentence.**

1. Baseball is a very popular sport.
2. The captain looked quite happy.
3. The hit seemed fair to me.
4. The game became very tense.
5. You appeared calm at the end of the game.
6. Our seats seemed a long way from the field.
7. Baseball can be a very exciting game.
8. I felt good about the game.
9. She is so happy about the win.
10. The team was ecstatic about the playoffs.

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# Complete Sentences

**The Boy Who Saved  
Baseball**

Grammar: Spiral Review

Complete Subject	Complete Predicate
My brother	plays baseball on the high school team.

Sentence Fragment	Practices every day after school
Complete Sentence	He practices every day after school.

Run-On Sentence	We watched the game last night it was fun to cheer.
Complete Sentences	We watched the game last night. It was fun to cheer.
Run-On Sentence	My brother caught a fly ball he hit a home run.
Complete Sentence	My brother caught a fly ball and hit a home run.

**1–4.** Label each group of words *sentence fragment* or *complete sentence*.

If the group of words is a complete sentence, draw a line between the complete subject and the complete predicate.

- Kids have played at O’leary Park for years. \_\_\_\_\_
- Even my grandpa when he was young! \_\_\_\_\_
- The city wants to pave over the field. \_\_\_\_\_
- Will make posters to protest and write to our mayor.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5–6.** Correct each run-on sentence by creating a compound subject or compound predicate. Use the conjunction in parentheses. Write the new sentence on the line.

- My family loves baseball my family always roots for our hometown team. **(and)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

- At the ballpark, my sisters share a bag of peanuts I share a bag of peanuts. **(and)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Word Choice

**The Boy Who Saved  
Baseball**  
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Verbs tell what someone or something does. Good writers choose verbs carefully to help their readers picture the action in their minds.

**sentences with vague verbs**

Gracie ran across the field.  
Tyler walked by the lake.

**sentences with exact verbs**

Gracie sprinted across the field.  
Tyler strolled by the lake.

**Rewrite each sentence, replacing the underlined verb with a more exact verb.**

1. Cho looked at the big, grey peaks.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. She went up the hill.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Squirrels moved down the tree trunks.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. They ate acorns and nuts.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Some flowers grew along the path.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. She drew a picture of a flower.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Focus Trait: Voice

## Establishing an Opinion

### The Boy Who Saved Baseball

Writing: Write to Respond

Good writers include strong topic sentences in their writing. In an opinion paragraph, the topic sentence will establish the writer’s opinion. The rest of the paragraph will use textual evidence and connections to the writer’s own life to support his or her opinion.

**Weak topic sentence:** *It was a good article.*

**Strong topic sentence:** *The article was well-organized, easy to understand, funny, and possibly the best I have read on the subject.*

**Read the paragraphs. Rewrite the topic sentence to better state the writer’s opinion.**

1. Most people think the desert is boring, but they are wrong. The wildflowers in the spring are a joy to see. Incredible sunsets light up the early evening sky. The subtle shades in the sand and stone are as soothing as a lullaby. The occasional quail or roadrunner that darts across the sandy roads brings life to the desert. It is a unique experience.

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2. Greece is really interesting. Why? First, Greece is the birthplace of democracy and philosophy. You can visit the site in Athens where the first vote was cast. Second, the landscape is breathtaking. Beautiful beaches and mountainsides dotted with traditional homes can be found in most areas of the country. Finally, the people of Greece are some of the most hospitable people of Europe. They are friendly and are only too happy to tell you about Greece and its history.

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