



THE WRITING ACADEMY®, LLC



Module 4

Ending, Significance, and the Full CREATURES ECR

Grade 4 · Cluster 4

Tackling TEKS · Reading & Writing

4.11(B)(ii) · 4.11(B)(iii) · 4.12(C)(i) · 4.12(C)(ii) · 4.11(C)(vi) · 4.11(D)(xvii) · 4.11(D)(xxi) · 4.11(D)(xxii) · 4.11(D)(xxiii) ·
4.11(D)(xxiv) · 4.11(D)(xxv) · 4.11(D)(xxvi) · 4.11(D)(xxvii) · 4.11(D)(xxviii) · 4.11(D)(xxix)



★ Meet Our Week!

Week 4 • Very High Stamina

★ Daily Deck

I Will...

- I will: read closely, speak about my thinking, use evidence accurately, and explain how each CREATURES move strengthens an argumentative response.
- I will: check that my Ending closes the case without copying the claim or adding a new reason.
- I will: connect my Significance sentence to the evidence and reasoning before lifting the idea into a larger world.
- I will: revise and edit a full CREATURES response for coherence, purposeful structure, and conventions.

I Can...

- I can: write a purposeful ending, explain significance beyond the paper, and use the full CREATURES framework to produce a complete argumentative response.
- I can: reinforce my central claim and synthesize my strongest reasoning in E, Ending.
- I can: write S, Significance as a Bluebird Moment that grows from the argument and explains why it matters beyond the paper.
- I can: use all nine CREATURES moves to plan and produce a coherent argumentative ECR.



Close the Case, Then Lift It

★ Daily Deck

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

Passages: “The Wealth of Mansa Musa” & “Four Regions, One Big Adventure”

nonfiction · Very High Stamina · ending and significance

How do Ending and Significance complete a CREATURES argument and leave the reader with a meaningful Bluebird Moment?

The Ending brings the reasoning together. Significance is the Bluebird Moment: the final big-picture idea.

The Ending closes our case. Significance lifts the idea into a larger world.

★ Dot the Tricky Words

Day 1 · Gather & Reveal

★ Daily Deck

D

Dot

Place a small dot above any word you are not sure about yet.

O

Discover

Discover the meaning as we learn together through our lessons.

T

Drop

Erase the dot once you know what the word means.

A little dot above a word means:
“I’m not sure about this word yet.”

Dot the word. Discover the meaning. Drop the dot, then celebrate when you own it!

★ Ending, Significance, and the Full Creature

Day 1 · Reveal

★ Daily Deck

E

ENDING

Reinforce my central claim and synthesize my strongest reasoning, then check that my Ending closes the case without copying the claim or adding a new reason.

S

SIGNIFICANCE

Significance should not become an unrelated inspirational quote. It must grow from the argument.

9

FULL CREATURES

Use all nine moves: Claim, Reasons, Evidence, Argument, Thinking, Understanding Others, Rebuttal, Ending, Significance.

C · R · E · A · T · U · R · E · S. The acronym is a memory path, not a demand for exactly nine sentences. CREATURES remains the architecture of the argumentative response, and CREATURES T always means Thinking.

Significance lifts the idea into a larger world. That last lift is our Bluebird Moment.



Ending or Bluebird?

Day 1 · Reveal (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Close or Lift?

- E** reinforces this paper's claim
- S** explains why the idea matters beyond this paper

Ask: *Listen for the difference between closing the paper and lifting the paper.*

Watch Me!

E, Ending: In the end, protecting trade had the greater impact because safer routes increased commerce.

S, Significance: Mansa Musa's example shows that leaders can create lasting opportunity when they protect the systems people rely on.

The Ending closes our case. Significance lifts the idea into a larger world. That last lift is our Bluebird Moment.

★ CREATURES Build Challenge

Day 2 · Attempt · Partner Game

★ Daily Deck

Passages: “The Wealth of Mansa Musa” & “Four Regions, One Big Adventure”

How to Play

- 1 Work in teams to build a complete CREATURES response map.
- 2 Every letter must have a job. R/E/T may repeat. U must be fair.
- 3 Rebuttal must answer the actual viewpoint. E must conclude. S must show why the issue matters beyond the paper.
- 4 Teams read the full argument aloud.

Success Check: *Listeners identify any missing or weak CREATURES move.*

With Your Partner...

Weak Conclusion

So natural resources are important.

close, then lift

Ending + Bluebird

Overall, natural resources have the greater influence on work opportunities because they directly shape important industries across Texas.

Which CREATURES letter was easiest to build? Which required the deepest thinking?

How did U/R change or strengthen the claim?

How is Ending different from Significance?

Where did the argument need a **transition** or rearrangement to improve A?

Student Directions: “A full argument is a system. Every part affects another part. When one letter is weak, the writer can diagnose the problem.”



What Makes a Strong Close?

Day 3 · Discuss (cont.)

★ Daily Deck

Which CREATURES letter was easiest to build? Which required the deepest thinking?

**an Ending that reinforces
and synthesizes**

**a Bluebird Moment that
grows from the evidence**

**all nine CREATURES
moves working together**

CREATURES gives us a way to name the next step.



Try It On Your Own!

Day 3 · Use (Independent Practice) · Interactive Notebook

CLAIM + R/E/T

Analyze the prompt and choose a defensible claim. Plan at least two logical reasons. Choose strong evidence for each reason.

U + R

Acknowledge one reasonable alternate viewpoint accurately. Write a rebuttal using reasoning and evidence.

E + S

Conclude by reinforcing the claim and synthesizing the most important reasoning, then finish with a Bluebird Moment explaining why the issue matters beyond the paper.

SWEEP

Revise and edit using the Cluster 4 standards check.

Trace C to R/E/T to U/R to E/S. Plan with CREATURES, then write a complete response.

★ Award & Target!

Day 4 · Award & Target

★ Daily Deck

Award 🏆

Award Yourself for a Job Well Done

- My Ending reinforces the claim and synthesizes the strongest reasoning.
- My Significance sentence is a meaningful Bluebird Moment rooted in the argument.
- My planning shows C, R, E, A, T, U, R, E, and S, with T always meaning Thinking.
- My complete response is coherent, evidence-based, and purposeful.

Target 🎯

“The part of my argument that sounds most like a real writer is _____ because _____.”

Curiosity Questions

You built a complete argumentative system. Celebrate the part you can now do independently and the part that shows the most growth.



Exit Ticket

Day 5 · Educate & Explain to Others

★ Daily Deck

Partner A teaches C through T. Partner B teaches U through S.

“My Ending is _____. My Significance sentence is _____.”

Then build one oral argument together from a passage prompt. Finish by explaining why S is called the Bluebird Moment.

★ Close or Lift?

Small-Group Support

★ Daily Deck

Build only one section at a time: C to one R/E/T chain to U/R to E/S. Use sentence stems and choice cards, then remove support after success.

“C stem: ___ had the greater impact because ___.”

“E stem: Overall, ___.”

“S stem: This matters beyond the passage because ___.”

Support Frame: “Overall, ___.” then “This matters beyond the passage because ___.”

Read the completed argument aloud so the student can hear the coherence.



Two Complete CREATURES Cases

Enrichment · Write in your notebook

Challenge: Build two defensible arguments from opposite positions on the same source prompt.

Prompt: Argue whether climate or natural resources have the greater influence on how people live and work across Texas.

Compare evidence strength, reasoning depth, rebuttal quality, and Bluebird Moments.

Decide which case is more persuasive and justify your evaluation with the CREATURES rubric.

Strong argumentative writing is about building the most defensible, coherent, evidence-based case.

★ My Progress Tracker

This tracker is for YOU! As you read and write this week, look at each skill. If you can do it all by yourself, color in the box that matches how you feel. Be honest, this helps you see how much you are growing!

I Can...	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
My Ending reinforces the claim and synthesizes the strongest reasoning.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
My Significance sentence is a meaningful Bluebird Moment rooted in the argument.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
My planning shows C, R, E, A, T, U, R, E, and S, with T always meaning Thinking.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it
My complete response is coherent, evidence-based, and purposeful.	Not yet	Getting set	I can do it

★ Citizenship Connection

Good Citizens · Our Community & Country

★ Passages: “The Wealth of Mansa Musa” & “Four Regions, One Big Adventure”

“Mansa Musa understood how important trade was to his kingdom. He made smart choices that helped merchants feel safe while traveling.”

Let's Look at an Answer!

Prompt: Argue whether climate or natural resources have the greater influence on how people live and work across Texas.

LOW

“So natural resources are important.”

What works: The sentence stays on the source topic.

What needs improvement: It does not reinforce the full claim, synthesize the developed reasoning, or create a Bluebird Moment.

Let's Look at Another Answer!

Prompt: Argue whether climate or natural resources have the greater influence on how people live and work across Texas.

MEDIUM

“Overall, natural resources have the greater influence on work opportunities because they directly shape important industries across Texas.”

What works: The Ending reinforces the claim and closes the case purposefully.

What needs improvement: The response still needs S, Significance to lift the meaning beyond the paper.

Our Strongest Answer!

Prompt: Argue whether climate or natural resources have the greater influence on how people live and work across Texas.

HIGH

E, Ending: Overall, natural resources have the greater influence on work opportunities because they directly shape what industries can grow in different Texas regions.

S, Significance / Bluebird Moment: Understanding the relationship between resources and opportunity can help communities make wiser choices about jobs, growth, and how they use and protect the land that supports them.

What works: The Ending reinforces and synthesizes the source-based case, and the Significance sentence grows from that reasoning to leave a meaningful Bluebird Moment.

★ **This is our target!**