

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Denouement**



# Denouement

The word denouement comes from the French word *denouer*, which means “to untie.” The following are characteristic of the denouement:

- The denouement follows the story’s falling action.
- It is the final part of a story in which all the strands of the plot are drawn together and everything is explained or resolved.
- It can serve as an epilogue to put the events of the story into a broader context.
- It may not feel like a resolution. Sometimes, a denouement implies that a story will continue, for example, in a sequel. A lack of resolution or a “to be continued” can be a story’s denouement.
- The final words of the denouement are the final words of the story.

**DIRECTIONS:** Identify the denouement in the story that you just read. Discuss how the bullet points above do or do not apply to the story’s denouement.

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