



Writing the Denouement

The word denouement comes from the French word *denouer*, which means "to untie." Use the organizer to plan the denouement for your story. Indicate what you will need to address relevant to your story for each item. Alternatively discuss why an item does not apply to your story.

The denouement follows the falling action. What happens in the falling action of your story?
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. After the falling action, what will remain to get explained or resolved in your story during the denouement?
It can serve as an epilogue to put the events of the story into a broader context. Does this apply to your story? How?
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. Does this apply to your story? How?
The final words of the denouement are the final words of the story. What will the final words of your story be?