

## Sample Response and Sample Non-Exemplar

**Prompt:** Write an ending that shows what happens next and resolves one of the novel's unanswered questions. Focus on bringing the story to a clear conclusion, rather than creating an entirely new plot.

Sample A (Exemplar)	Sample B (Non-Exemplar)
<p>Eventually, the sled slowed to a stop at the bottom of the hill. Jonas's arms were trembling from the effort of holding Gabriel, who was still shivering against his chest. Jonas took a deep breath, trying to steady himself as he looked around. Snow stretched in every direction, soft and silent. He held Gabriel tighter to his chest and looked toward the horizon hopefully. In the distance, lights flickered in the dark. Jonas thought he could make out the shapes of houses and buildings, and he could still hear the faint sound of people singing. They were almost there.</p> <p>Next, Jonas pushed himself up from the sled and stumbled onto the snow, almost collapsing under Gabriel's weight. Each step was an <b>excruciating</b> battle. His legs felt weak, sinking into the deep snow, and his lungs burned from the cold air. At one point, he fell to his knees, but he got up and pressed on. "Almost there," he murmured, more to reassure himself than Gabriel.</p>	<p>Eventually, the sled bounced to a stop at the bottom of the hill. "Woohoo!" Jonas cheered, lifting Gabriel a little higher. The snow sparkled all around them, and the cold air filled him with energy. He waved <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">at the lights</span> in the distance, imagining the houses and people waiting for them. "Look! Houses! People! Music! This is awesome!"</p> <p>Next, Jonas hopped off the sled and bounded through the snow with Gabriel in his arms, his boots crunching loudly with every step. Each step was a victory, carrying him nearer to the village. Even when he stumbled and slid on a patch of ice, he laughed and got right back up. He wanted to sing along with the voices in the distance. "Almost there!" he shouted, pumping his fist. Nothing could ruin this moment, not the cold, not the tiredness, not anything at all.</p>