

Access the passage for Question 2 (page 3), found at the link below:

[https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/ap10\\_frq\\_eng\\_lit\\_formb.pdf](https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/ap10_frq_eng_lit_formb.pdf)

**Thesis:**

In the excerpt from the story “Cherry Bomb,” Maxine Clair presents two youthful misunderstandings, describes an arduous journey to a sentimental treasure, and downplays a dangerous encounter in order to characterize the narrator’s childhood as a time of blissful and naive adventure, ultimately illustrating that nostalgia brings comfort and joy to a mature mind.<sup>1</sup>

**Constructing Conclusion Paragraphs: Your Inner Cinderella (2~6 sentences)**

1. Identify 2-3 key ideas—singular abstract words—to which the essay relates.

Comfort            Sentimentality            Nostalgia            Joviality            Naivety  
Adventure    Youthful Misunderstanding            Blissful Ignorance  
Immaturity            Secrecy

2. Generating a sentence that establishes the relationship between the ideas considered in step 1; this will be the first sentence of your conclusion. To do this with style, consider generating a pertinent metaphor to articulate the relationship.

Original: Remembering the jovial days of yesteryear can be quite comforting, especially when dealing with the realities of adulthood.

Style: Recollection of childhood memories invokes a cozy and comforting sense of nostalgia, which wraps the adult mind in a warm blanket of simpler times.

3. After highlighting the ideas that the paper explores, write them into a universally applicable model and/or make the audience respond to said ideas in some way, but never by asking a question. This works best for students if they synthesize a remarkably pertinent piece of textual evidence as they display the story or poem’s universal application.

(Channel your inner Cinderella and leave your glass slipper!)

*In other words:* Write two to three sentences that clearly link the ideas in the prompt to an extension of your thesis. Do this by explaining what the author’s message is in a fully universal sense. In other words, explain the universal insight the author is presenting to the reader without mentioning anything about the plot; however, one thing you may want to consider doing is finding a “sexy quote” that thematically summarizes a universal insight and include that in your last sentence of your conclusion. This leaves a “**BAM!!!**” factor that is undeniable.

---

<sup>1</sup> Originally produced by Sammy O’Connor (Valley Tech class of 2017)

*Note 1: To write a universally excellent glass slipper, consider generating a hypothetical “if this didn’t happen...” statement or summarizing the last event in the resolution. Change all literary elements to universal terms, and then use the sentence that comes from such.*

*e.g., “If...” statement: If Romeo had only waited a few moments longer, he’d have been able to live happily with Juliet.*

*Revised Universal: If individuals were only willing to act with a bit more patience and prudence, they would be much more likely to see the “honey of [life’s] breath” (V.iii.92).*

*Or*

*The simple gift of a cherry bomb that her cousin gave her allowed the narrator to feel valued and important.*

*Revised: Even the seemingly most simple gifts, whether they come from close relatives or friends, have the power to remind individuals of the immense value of “good times” (Clair 62-63).*

Conclusion:

(2) Recollection of childhood memories invokes a cozy and comforting sense of nostalgia, which wraps the adult mind in a warm blanket of simpler times.

(3) Positive memories of the more adventurous days hold significant value, and although they spend most of their time tucked away in a “private box of things” (Clair 18) while hidden in a “cave-dark closet” (Clair 26) of the mind, one should always remember how to access them and do so often. <sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Originally produced by Sammy O’Connor (Valley Tech class of 2017)