

Name _____



Outcome Connections

Directions: Read both excerpts carefully, paying close attention to the **causes** (what happens first) and the **effects** (what happens as a result). Compare how **similar causes** in both passages lead to **different outcomes**. Complete the reflection questions with full-sentence answers that include text evidence.

Excerpt A: *The Little Engine That Could* (adapted)

"When the larger engines refused to pull the train over the mountain, the little blue engine stepped forward. Though small, it tugged with all its might, repeating, 'I think I can.' With steady effort, it pulled the train to the other side, delivering toys and food to the children waiting below."

Excerpt B: *The Tortoise and the Hare* (fable, adapted)

"The hare laughed at the idea of racing a slow tortoise. Confident he would win, the hare ran ahead but stopped to nap under a tree. The tortoise kept moving, slow but steady, and crossed the finish line before the hare woke up."

1. How are the **causes** in both passages similar?

2. How are the **effects** in each passage different?

3. What message or lesson does each story convey about persistence or determination?

4. Which character do you admire more, and why?
