

Rising Action To End Answer Key

Note: Predictions can vary. Strong answers will use the rising action details ("trained for months," "chain slipped," "determined to catch up") as evidence.

1. Main Problem:

Diego's bike chain slips off during the race, causing him to fall behind.

2. Possible Ending - Overcomes the Problem:

Diego rides faster and catches up with the other racers. He may not win first place, but he finishes strong and feels proud of not giving up.

- Evidence: "pushed harder, determined to catch up."

3. Possible Ending - Does Not Overcome the Problem:

Diego struggles to recover from the delay. He finishes the race far behind the others and feels disappointed, though he learns the importance of perseverance.

- Evidence: Losing time when others sped by.

4. Most Likely Ending:

It is more likely that Diego pushes through and finishes the race, perhaps not in first place but with determination. The rising action highlights his persistence and training, suggesting the author is setting up a lesson about effort and resilience.

Teacher Notes:

- Stress that predictions should connect to **plot clues** in the rising action, not just personal wishes.
- Encourage multiple endings to show that stories can go in different directions, but one is often **foreshadowed** by the setup.
- Extension: have students write their own "ending paragraphs" for Diego's story and compare.