**Prompt: How do the events in “The Sniper” build up the irony, or surprise at the story’s end?**

The events in “The Sniper” work together to lead the reader to the unexpected ending. Irony is throughout the story from the very beginning. At the start, the sniper puts himself in a situation that has a negative consequence. On p. 213 paragraphs 1 & 2, he chooses to smoke a cigarette which gives away his position, leading him down the terrible path. Furthermore, he chooses to place his guilt in an unlikely place. Instead of feeling sorry for killing the old woman on p. 213 paragraphs 6 & 7, he feels sorry for killing the enemy sniper at the end of p. 214. This continues the irony. Finally, unlike most killers during war, the sniper wants to know who he killed. On p. 215, the final piece of irony strikes hard as the story ends with the sniper staring into his dead brother’s face. All of the ironic events help the reader eventually get to the surprise ending.

green- topic sentence is restatement of prompt and conclusion sentence restates it

purple- examples straight from the text

red- explanations of examples (in your own words)