



Conclusions

Conclusions give your essay closure and should leave your reader with a final, interesting impression. A well written conclusion should remind your audience of the main points discussed in your essay.

When writing a conclusion it is helpful to:

- Restate, but do not repeat your topic and why it is important
- Summarize your key points
- Make recommendations
- Have a call to action
- Suggest results of consequences
- Show how your points, support, and examples fit together for a purpose

When writing a conclusion **DO NOT**:

- Introduce new ideas or topics
- Use a quote as your final sentence
- Write a single sentence as your conclusion
- Include evidence that should have appeared in a body paragraph
- Use clichéd transitions like “In conclusion,” “To conclude,” “In summary”

Conclusions for different types of essays:

Compare and Contrast:

- Summarize main differences and similarities
- Evaluate results of compare and contrast
- Make recommendations

Argumentative:

- Address opposing viewpoints, but remind the reader why they should align with your position
- Have a call for action, offer a solution, overview future research possibilities/discussions

Literary Analysis:

- Echo your thesis and main points without repeating yourself word for word
- Reflect how your topic relates to the story you’re analyzing

Poetry Explication:

- Discuss the value of the poem in literature
- Evaluate how the author succeeds in conveying his/her message

Research:

- Provide new insight, not new information
- Offer a solution to an issue; propose a course of action
- Point to the broader significance/impact of your research topic