

# CONCLUSIONS

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The introduction and conclusion frame your essay. The conclusion restates the thesis of the essay, and presents the significance of what you have talked about. A well written conclusion will make an essay feel complete.

### What is the **purpose** of the **conclusion**?

The conclusion to your essay is a closing statement, a signal to readers that you have not simply stopped writing, but have actually finished. This is not a place for new information. New information causes readers to change their focus away from what you've said. The conclusion *completes* the essay, wrapping it up neatly; this is why the conclusion usually begins with a restatement of your thesis statement and ends with a suggestion of how your main idea has significance in the world beyond the essay. In general, the purpose is to give your reader a sense of discovery and satisfaction.

### What is a good **conclusion**?

A good conclusion has the opposite structure of a good introduction. It is like an upright triangle,  $\triangle$  beginning with a focused paraphrase of your main point, and then broadening its scope to indicate the significance of your thesis in a larger context.

### Some strategies for the **conclusion**:

- Summarize the paper
- Restate your thesis and reflect on its importance or implication
- Echo the approach of the introduction (restate the main idea in different words and from a slightly different angle)
- Include an insight that readers would not have understood before reading your paper
- Give a compelling example that reinforces your idea
- Appeal to your readers emotions

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LEARN MORE

*Don't forget: students can always ask tutors or their teachers for an explanation of anything that's not clear.*

Texts available to use in the SLC English Writing Lab:

<i>Grassroots with Readings</i> , Ninth Edition Susan Fawcett Chapter 5	<i>Evergreen, A Guide to Writing with Readings</i> , Ninth Edition, Susan Fawcett Chapter 15	<i>Evergreen</i> , Sixth Edition, Susan Fawcett and Alvin Sandberg Pages 170, 223-24
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Online:

[Writing Center: Introductions and Conclusions](#)

[Strategies for Writing a Conclusion](#)

[Guide to Writing a Basic Essay](#)