

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:

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| <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](#)