



WRITING A CONCLUSION

A conclusion's job is to sum up your essay and leave the reader with a final impression of your writing. This is not an opportunity to introduce new ideas, as this should already be done in the body paragraphs of the essay. The content within a conclusion is very similar to what should be in your introduction, so it can help to write them at the same time.

1. RESTATED THESIS

To begin writing your conclusion, the first thing you need to do is restate your thesis. Take the thesis used previously in your essay and reword it. This will be the start of your essay's summary.

2. SUMMARIZE MAIN POINTS

Next, list the main points within your essay. Similar to what you wrote in the introduction, summarize each main point with a sentence or two. Keep in mind the purpose of doing this as you write. Unlike in the introduction where your intention was to give the reader a preview of the essay, your intention is now to remind them what's in it. The reader has already read the body paragraphs of your essay and should now be familiar with these main points. By summing them up one last time, you reinforce the main points and help the reader remember them as they begin to reflect on your essay.

3. FINAL IMPRESSION

Finally, to finish your conclusion, write a sentence that will encourage the reader to continue thinking about your essay. It can be hard to come up with a good 'clincher,' but don't give up. Writing an effective clincher can be very rewarding for your entire essay.

If you are stuck, a great option is to write a response to the attention-grabbing sentence, or hook, used in your introduction. If your hook was a question, use the answer to the question. If your hook was a fact, revisit it and make a comment. If your hook was a quote, use a related quote or reflect on the original.

