



Writing a Conclusion

A Conclusion Should:

- restate thesis/return reader to thesis.
- start specific and end general.
- sum up the paper.
- give a sense of completeness or closure.

Ideas for a Conclusion

Summary

Summarize the main elements of your paper.

Ex: Writing can be an enjoyable pastime for anyone. As we have discussed, writing is stimulating, entertaining, and rewarding .

Application

Explain how the topic affects the reader.

Ex: When we discover writing for pleasure, we will find ourselves both stimulated to reach new heights and rewarded for our efforts.

Evaluation

Make a judgment on the topic of your paper.

Ex: Writing is the best way any person could spend his or her spare time.

Prophecy

Project what the future may hold for the topic you have discussed.

Ex: In the future, writing for pleasure may become one of the world 's favorite pastimes.

Quotation

Cite from a source in a way that sums up your paper.

Ex: It is when we discover writing for pleasure that we will discover life. As John Fletcher states, "Ask how to live? Write, write, write, anything."

Inquisition

Ask a question or a series of questions.

Ex: How long will we wait? How much time will we waste before we discover what our lives have been missing?

Echo

Allude to a part of your introduction.

Ex: (In the introduction: Who needs writing, anyway?) Conclusion: Who needs writing, anyway? We all do.

Strong Emotional Statement

End your paper with a dramatic statement.

Ex: If you haven't tried writing for pleasure, you are missing out on one of life's greatest thrills.