

## CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

**Definition:** The conclusion is the last paragraph of your essay in which you re-state your argument and its importance. A good conclusion must:

- Restate the thesis (in different words)
- Discuss changes, if any, to your thesis over the course of the essay.
- Synthesize your ideas: show how they all fit together.
- Give the reader something to think about.

Your conclusion should build upon your thesis, show that your findings have helped prove or disprove your purpose in writing the essay.

DO'S	DON'TS
Show the reader how to apply your ideas to real life and how all your ideas fit together	Introduce new concepts to the essay (only do this in body paragraphs).
Evoke a vivid image of your ideas by suggesting results or consequences.	Beginning with unnecessary phrases such as “in conclusion” or “in closing”.
End the conclusion with a sentence that leaves the reader either curious or satisfied.	Include evidence of your claim (this should be done in your body paragraphs).

Remember that, in a conclusion, you basically talk about everything that you've already mentioned, so **avoid introducing different or new ideas in your conclusion.**

### EXERCISE

Fill out the outline using key phrases and concepts for your concluding paragraph.

Thesis Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

Topics discussed in essay: \_\_\_\_\_

Hook (Capture the reader's attention): \_\_\_\_\_

An easy method for drafting a conclusion involves restating your thesis statement as well as the topic sentences of your body paragraphs and forming a paragraph around those concepts.