

As the final section of a paper, the conclusion plays an important role in wrapping up the paper. The conclusion allows the writer to close the essay by evaluating, not summarizing, the main points of the paper. An effective conclusion should help the readers understand why your analysis matters.

Evaluate

Since the reader has already went through your paper, there is no need to repeat all the ideas presented on it; instead, highlight the main points and try to emphasize them in a different way.

“So What?”

Think about this question when it comes to writing your conclusion. Why should the reader care and what should the take away be for them? Asking yourself this question is also important because it can help locate ideas that matter to you.

Return to the Theme/s

You can choose to return to some of the same themes you used in the introduction. For example, if it starts with an anecdote, you can choose to complete it, and thus giving the paper a sense of full circle.

Broader Implications

If your paper points to a specific episode on history or an event, you could use this part to talk about the broader implications of said events. Broader implications are the bad and good your argument can bring to the world. Think big picture.

Suggestions

Here, you can try to raise questions about your topic, propose a possible solution, or suggest a course of action. Think about how people can take your ideas and use them in their own life.

How to Close the Conclusion

- Try to not introduce new information in the conclusion, such as quotes that don't provide understanding or a new character (if it's a book analysis).

- Avoid using over used phrases; for example, “in conclusion,” “in summary,” or “in closing.”
- Evidence (such as statistics or quotations) that support the thesis (these should be in the body of your essay)

Sources:

Finchem, David. “Writing an Effective Conclusion.” *CCD Writing Center*, July 2017, www.CCD.edu/Tutoring.

“How to Write a Conclusion.” *SLC*, www.csuchico.edu/slc.