

Conclusion Key Points

A conclusion should:

- stress the importance of the thesis statement,
- give the essay a sense of completeness, and
- leave a final impression on the reader.

Ways to make a strong conclusion:

Synthesize, don't summarize: Show how all your points fit together.

Answer the question "So What?": Why was what you wrote meaningful?

Redirect your readers/Create a new meaning: Give the reader something to think about, or some new way to examine the material.

Some Do's and Don't's

- 1) DO NOT just simply restate your thesis.
 - It is repetitive and unnecessary since the reader just finished reading the paper- the thesis should be understood
- 2) DO provide some deeper understanding or reflect what should be learned.
- 3) DO NOT get too sentimental or grandiose.
 - Making a large, overzealous claim will make your reader think, "Seriously? Not possible."
- 4) DO provide some positive idea or call to action that is based on what has been covered in the paper.
- 5) DO NOT bring up new ideas in the conclusion.
 - You should be wrapping up, not starting all over again.
- 6) DO make your readers feel like they have been reading a paper by someone who knows what he or she is talking about.
 - Ending with "This is how...is shown...in...." completely cancels that out!