

WRITING CONCLUSIONS

Generally, conclusions should “wrap up” your argument in an effective manner. You may restate your thesis in your conclusion or otherwise remind your reader of the main ideas of your argument, but do not limit yourself to that. Rather, think of your conclusion as your last, best chance to sell your topic. You are trying to persuade your reader of the validity of your argument, after all.

Here are some strategies for writing conclusions:

1. Strike a note of hope or despair.
2. Discuss the future.
3. Give a symbolic or powerful fact or other detail.
4. Give an especially compelling example.
5. Create a visual image that represents your subject.
6. Use a quotation.
7. Recommend a course of action.
8. Restate your thesis and reflect on its implications.
9. Echo the approach of your introduction.
10. Discuss what you have learned from your essay.