

CWE- L2 (S3)

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Writing a conclusion

1- Introduction

A. Importance of a Conclusion

- The conclusion is the final opportunity to leave a lasting impression on the reader.
- It ties together the main points and arguments presented in the essay.
- It reinforces the significance of the topic and the thesis statement.

2. Understanding the Purpose of a Conclusion

A. Recapitulation of Main Points

- Summarize the key arguments and findings presented in the essay.
- Remind the reader of the significance of these points in relation to the thesis statement.

B. Restatement of Thesis

- Reinforce the central argument or claim of the essay.
- Provide closure by reminding the reader of the purpose of the essay.

C. Providing a Sense of Closure

- Conclude the essay in a way that feels complete and satisfying.
- Avoid introducing new information or arguments in the conclusion.

3. Strategies for Writing an Effective Conclusion

A. Synthesizing Key Ideas

- Review the main points and arguments presented in the body paragraphs.
- Identify common themes or patterns that emerge from the discussion.
- Synthesize these ideas into a cohesive summary that reinforces the thesis statement.

B. Emphasizing Significance

- Reflect on the broader implications of the topic or argument.
- Discuss why the topic matters and how it relates to the larger context.
- Connect the essay's findings to real-world applications or future research directions.

C. Inviting Further Thought

- Pose thought-provoking questions or challenges to the reader.
- Suggest areas for future exploration or research related to the topic.
- Encourage the reader to consider the implications of the essay's arguments beyond the scope of the essay itself.

4. Common Points to Avoid

A. Introducing New Information

- Resist the temptation to introduce new arguments or evidence in the conclusion.
- Focus on summarizing and synthesizing existing content rather than expanding on it.

B. Being Overly Repetitive

- While it's important to reinforce key points, avoid simply restating information from earlier in the essay.
- Find fresh ways to summarize and synthesize the main ideas without repeating verbatim.

C. Underestimating the Importance

- Remember that the conclusion is your final opportunity to leave a strong impression on the reader.
- Take the time to craft a conclusion that is thoughtful, impactful, and memorable.

5. Practical Tips for Writing a Conclusion

A. Begin with a Signal Phrase

- Use phrases such as "In conclusion," "To summarize," or "In summary" to signal to the reader that you are wrapping up your essay.

B. Keep it Concise

- Aim for a conclusion that is succinct and to the point.
- Avoid unnecessary repetition or verbosity.

C. Consider the Tone

- Maintain a tone that is consistent with the rest of the essay.

- If appropriate, you can inject a note of optimism, caution, or inspiration into the conclusion.

6. Conclusion

A. Recap of Key Points

- Summarize the main strategies for writing an effective conclusion.
- Emphasize the importance of providing closure and reinforcing the central argument.

This lecture provides a comprehensive guide to writing an effective conclusion for an essay, covering the purpose, strategies, common pitfalls, practical tips, and concluding remarks. Here are some examples of effective conclusions along with explanations of why they work well:

Example 1:

In conclusion, the evidence presented clearly demonstrates the detrimental effects of climate change on marine ecosystems. From the decline in coral reefs to the loss of biodiversity, it is evident that urgent action is needed to mitigate these impacts. By raising awareness, implementing sustainable practices, and advocating for policy changes, we can work towards preserving our oceans for future generations.

Explanation:

- This conclusion effectively summarizes the main points discussed in the essay, highlighting the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems.
- It reinforces the importance of taking action to address these issues, providing a sense of urgency and purpose.
- The call to action encourages readers to consider their role in addressing climate change and offers practical steps for making a difference.

Example 2:

To summarize, the findings of this study support the hypothesis that exercise has a positive impact on mental health. Through a review of existing literature and an analysis of survey data, it is clear that regular physical activity is associated with reduced symptoms of depression and anxiety. These findings underscore the importance of incorporating exercise into mental health treatment plans and promoting active lifestyles as a means of improving overall well-being.

Explanation:

- This conclusion succinctly restates the main findings of the study, reinforcing the central argument.
- It emphasizes the significance of the research findings and their implications for mental health treatment.
- By highlighting the practical implications of the study, it provides a clear takeaway for readers and suggests avenues for future research or intervention.

The above examples demonstrate how effective conclusions can summarize key points, reinforce the central argument, emphasize significance for the reader.