Conclusions

*Why is a conclusion so important?*

A concluding paragraph provides readers with a sense of closure about what you’ve written. Although your conclusion doesn’t have to be lengthy, you don’t want to come to an abrupt stop and leave any loose ends for your readers.

*An effective conclusion will…*

- Summarize your main points.
- Revisit your thesis statement. To avoid redundancy, state your thesis using slightly different words.
- Remind readers of the greater significance of your topic and motivate them to think about it after they’ve finished reading.

*Concluding strategies:*

1. Refer back to your introduction. This helps create unity in your paper.
2. Leave readers with a fresh perspective. Offer a suggestion for a new way of thinking about your topic.
3. Mention the possible future of the issue you’ve written about.
4. Provide a call to action. Encourage readers to change their behavior based on the information you’ve given them.
5. Close with a quotation that sums up what you’ve written about.
Questions to ask when developing a conclusion:

- How can I summarize this topic?
- How can I encourage readers to think about this topic even after they’ve finished reading?
- Does my conclusion contain any information that is irrelevant to the rest of my paper? If so, what can I eliminate?

Know when you’re finished.

Don’t bring up too much new information in your conclusion; you don’t want to overwhelm readers. If you find yourself trying to incorporate new information into the conclusion, you may need to go back and add another body paragraph to the paper.