

Conclusion Paragraphs

Purpose

- MLA header? Check
- Introduction? Double check.
- Supporting paragraphs complete with relevant evidence and superb analysis that ties it to the thesis? *Triple* check.
- But wait - we're missing something. What's going to tie this essay that we've written and close it up?! ↴
- The conclusion paragraph.

Notes

- A conclusion paragraph comes at the... well... *conclusion* of your essay; it comes at the end.
- At a bare minimum, your conclusions paragraph needs only two things: your thesis and your supporting points.
 - If you're running out of time, I suggest simply restating these two ^ from your introductory paragraph. (Something's better than nothing!)
 - Actually, the bare minimum includes making your conclusions paragraph - no matter how short it may end up being - an *actual paragraph*! Whatever you do, please don't just add your conclusion to the end of your last supporting paragraph.
 - I mean, it just looks ~ew~
 - And also, it's just good to use paragraphs to separate big ideas in an essay - and a conclusion is definitely a stand-alone item!
 - BUT if you practice writing essays and, at one point, have the time to write an especially eye-catching conclusion... here are some things you can add to spice up your conclusion!
 - The **CALL-TO-ACTION**: include a last statement, imploring your audience to take action in support of your argument - maybe even include a specific way that the audience can act.
 - Ex: After an essay on the importance of voting, perhaps mention a nearby place where people can vote.
 - Leave your audience thinking: leave your audience with one **deep** thought to contemplate long after they have read your essay. (This works really well in concluding presentations too. Leave your audience ruminating.)

- Ex: At the conclusion of a personal essay, maybe you can end it with a new understanding about yourself/the world that you hope the audience leaves with too.
- Emotion Evoking: it is exactly what it sounds like. (this works best if your audience is a bunch of softies like myself ;(
 - Ex: To conclude an essay in which you've argued against the use of euthanasia, you could use careful, purposeful diction and phrasing to create a last image of how bad euthanasia is and add in a sentence like: Euthanasia, the murder, the premature *slaughter* of life, shouldn't be leg. (Although, yikes! That may be a little too strong for a school essay :|

Examples

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EXAMPLE #2

“Euthanasia should be legalized everywhere. Making a patient suffer is the worst crime. My paper proves that euthanasia is moral and ethical as the healthcare professionals help patients to get rid of the endless suffering by letting them die.”

- (First of all, I'm so excited about finding this because I had in no way planned to give an example about euthinasia and then actually find a legitimate example!)
- Okay, but let's talk about this conclusion paragraph:
 - It's short, simple, and to the point. Here is literal proof that a conclusion paragraph does not need to be 15 sentences long to be good.
 - This example employs harsh diction much like my own example. “Suffer” is said twice, and since the word suffer carries such a negative connotation, by using it in a conclusion not once - but twice! - creates a link between “suffering” and “not legalizing euthinasia”.

“I have analyzed the given piece of literature to prove that the author uses ghostwriting services. Several factors show that. A language of the last chapters is significantly different from the writing style at the beginning of the book, the plot changes throughout the story taking new directions, and there is no slang words closer to the end while they appear frequently at the beginning.”

- So this example has “goods” *and* “bads”:
 - First of all, I encourage keeping “I” out of your essays completely.
 - Also, it is obvious that there are some grammar mistakes in this conclusion paragraph example.
 - But, this is a good example of the “bare minimum” thing I mentioned earlier. Now, of course, we don't know the prompt for this essay, and we can't see the rest of this essay, but it is still easy to tell that this conclusion paragraph is just the thesis (we don't know if it was copied or restated, though I advise you to always *restate*), followed by the supporting details (which would have been the topic sentences of the supporting paragraphs in the essay).

Level: 9

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- Each of these examples came from:
<https://pro-essay-writer.com/blog/essay-conclusion-examples> and there are many more on this website if you're interested in seeing other examples of conclusion paragraphs for all types of essays!

Helpful Links

- <http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/conclude.html>
 - Need some more quick, easy bullet points on what-to-dos and what-not-to-dos when it comes to conclusion paragraphs? This is your link!
- <https://writingcenter.fas.harvard.edu/pages/ending-essay-conclusions>
 - Here are a few more ideas of what to include in a conclusion essay.
- https://www.scribendi.com/academy/articles/write_a_conclusion_paragraph.en.html
 - If you're more of a visual learner, this is a simple guide (with pictures!) with just 3 steps on how to write a good conclusion paragraph.
- <https://www.servicescape.com/blog/in-summary-10-examples-of-essay-conclusions>
 - Here are 10 more examples of good conclusion paragraphs. Each one is written with a slightly different voice/style, so I highly recommend giving this a quick read-through.