**Essay Conclusions**

The conclusion paragraph is the last paragraph in your essay. Its job is to emphasize your thesis statement and leave the reader with a feeling of satisfaction and completeness. It should not, under any circumstances, present any brand new information about your topic. The conclusion paragraph is made up of its own three parts:

* Connect to hook
* Restate the thesis
* Final thoughts

**Connect to Hook:** Your first sentences should refer back to the lead/hook you wrote in your introduction paragraph.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lead** | **Connect to lead** |
| If you were given the chance to live forever, would you take it? | Whether or not to take the chance to live forever would be a difficult decision to make. |

**Restate Thesis:** Your next sentences should restate you thesis statementin a different way.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Thesis** | **Restate Thesis** |
| Three great things about owning a dog are that they are loyal, they are entertaining, and they keep you company. | As you can see, owning a dog is great because of how loyal they are, how much fun they are to play with, and how they can be your constant companion. |

**Final Thoughts:** your final sentences should provide the reader with some closing, final thoughts on the topic that make your essay feel complete.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Strategy** | **Meaning** | **Example** |
| Look to the future | The writer ends by discussing something that might happen in the future, related to the topic of the essay | If you wrote a piece about the leaders of the American Revolutionary War, you might say: “Thanks to these great leaders, America is the strong country it is today.” |
| Recommendation | The writer ends by recommending that the reader should do something. | If you wrote a piece about recycling, you might say, “So next time you see trash on the ground, be sure to do your part and throw it away.” |
| End with an image | The writer ends by leaving a strong image in the reader’s mind. | If you wrote a piece about the desert, you might say, “The sun is beating down, the air is hot and still, and all is quiet. This is life in the desert.” |
| One final question | The writer ends by leaving the reader with something to think about. | If you wrote a piece about the leaders of the American Revolutionary War, you might ask, “Just think, what would our country be like today without these great leaders?” |
| Leave a feeling | The writer ends by leaving the reader with a certain feeling. | If you wrote a piece about recycling, you might say, “Our planet needs you!” |

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