

## Conclusions

As the final word, an essay's conclusion is often what readers remember best. Effective conclusions are rarely longer than a paragraph, but should be consistent with the rest of the essay. A conclusion should bring an essay to a close and reinforce the thesis. It should not introduce any new information, but instead, should review the main points of the essay.

Often, effective introductions and conclusions echo each other. They may share ideas, examples, or metaphors which tie them together. However, although a conclusion may reflect the introduction, it should not repeat it.

A writer should try to avoid using the exact words and phrasing used throughout the essay, as this will bore readers who have already received this information. One should also avoid ending with cliché's, or an unnecessary announcement defining the end of the paper. Avoid phrases like "in the end," or "in conclusion."

### Effective Conclusions:

- End the discussion of a problem with a recommended course of action.
- End with a prediction. Be sure it logically follows the main ideas of the work.
- End with a relevant quotation. Be sure to explain the quotes relevance to the ideas in your writing.
- End with a thought-provoking question, suggestion, or statement.