
HINTS FOR WRITING A CONCLUSION



Hint #1

Conclusion Words - Sometimes "conclusion" words like these will help you write the conclusion of an essay. Most of the time, using the word or phrase in the middle of a sentence is better than making it the first word of the conclusion.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| in fact | altogether | overall | definitely |
| in conclusion | indeed | truly | ultimately |
| for these reasons | surely | all in all | thus |
| as a result of | clearly | due to | in effect |
| in effect | to sum up | obviously | consequently |



Hint #2

Four Strategies for Writing a Conclusion - To help you focus the conclusion, try one of these strategies. Each essay is different. Sometimes it is best to summarize the key points of the paper. At other times you will want to push your reader to take action. You might just want your readers to think about an issue, or you may want to use the last paragraph of the paper to make another attempt to convince the reader of your thesis.

A. Summarize information - Obviously, buying U.S. savings bonds to save for college expenses is a good idea. They don't cost a lot of money. They are secured by our own government. In fact, they are guaranteed to grow, and they are a tax advantage as well as an investment in your child's future.

B. Encourage action - Ask your employer about saving for college with U.S. savings bonds. Write: U.S. Savings Bonds for Education, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C. 20226, or call 1-800-4USBond. This certainly could be the first important step in planning for the future.

C. Provide food for thought - To sum up, it is important to buy, install, and maintain proper equipment to prevent a home fire. Train your family by developing a plan in case of a fire: discuss and practice the plan. Take all necessary precautions to prevent a fire in your home, and you will go a long way toward protecting your loved ones and home.

D. Convince the reader - The point is, write. A letter or card is truly a unique gift - a piece of yourself. And if kids come home from school talking about pen pals or writing to a senator or editor, you'll know they're participating in National Card and Letter Writing Week. Encourage them because they're learning about the value of the written word.



Hint #3

Try Repetition/Try Repetition/Try Repetition

1). Repeating a word or phrase might help you emphasize your thesis. Example: Reading the classics, reading news magazines, and reading textbooks will definitely improve your vocabulary.

2). Try using sentence fragments and repeating words. It is okay to use sentence fragments in your writing if you use them for emphasis. A fragment is a phrase - a group of words that go together but are not a complete thought. Example: Water down the drain as we brush our teeth. Water from improperly placed lawn sprinklers. Water used to wash driveways. To save this precious resource, everyone must acknowledge the waste and take time to turn off the faucets.



!!! Get Emotional !!!

Always make sure the emotion is appropriate to your topic and to the assignment. Example: Young children should not suffer. Infants like Stephanie cannot call for help. They need you and they need me. If we recognize neglect, we must speak up!



Use a Quotation (www.quoteland.com or www.brainyquote.com)

Example: In 1961, President John F. Kennedy encouraged all Americans to "ask what you can do for your country." Those involved in Habitat for Humanity asked and found a wonderful answer. Habitat volunteers, like those described in this report, work year round to improve the lives of their fellow Americans.



Use an Anecdote (a brief story)

Example: My mother is 78. She recently needed knee surgery. The operation lasted 90 minutes, but the recovery included a ten day stay at the rehab clinic. The nurses took great care of my mom, but I know that her charming personality helped. She thanked the nurses for their efforts, she complimented them when they finished a task, she tried to follow their orders, and she smiled even when the therapy became a challenge. Her positive attitude encouraged all of the nurses to give her great service. Those who complain about poor service might want to try my mother's strategy - charm and manipulate.



+++ End on a Positive Note +++

Gloom and doom usually don't work. Readers like to know that a solution is possible. Leave them with a sense of hope.

Example: Many smokers struggle to quit smoking; however, they have doctors, pharmacists, and friends to support and encourage them. (Not - Stop smoking; it will kill you).



Imitate the Professionals

Reading and watching what professional writers do with conclusions to their articles, columns, and editorials is a good way to get ideas for concluding your paragraphs, essays, or reports.