

The Concluding Paragraph

The last, or concluding, paragraph should provide a satisfactory conclusion to an essay. So, how can a writer conclude an essay effectively? Here are some ways:

1. Restate the thesis statement of the essay.
2. Restate the main points you've made in the essay.
3. Make a prediction about your topic: What will happen next?
4. Make a call to arms: tell the readers what they should do, now that they've read your essay.
5. Answer the question "So what?" Why should readers care about what you have written?
6. Provide a conclusion that mirrors or complements your introduction; for example, finish or return to the scenario you presented in your introduction.
7. Leave readers with a question to ponder.

Any one, or any combination, of these can make up an effective **concluding paragraph**.

Introductory paragraph
Thesis

Body paragraph

Body paragraph

Body paragraph

Concluding paragraph