



Formal Concluding Statement

Is your formal concluding statement effective? It may not be, if it uses any of the following strategies. Read your draft essay through to the very end. Identify whether or not you are making any of these conclusion mistakes. How can you improve your conclusion?

- Your conclusion summarizes but does not synthesize your main points. Rather than showing how your main points connect to form a new concept or perspective, you simply repeat them.
- Your thesis statement appears for the first time in your conclusion.
- Your conclusion uses pathos in a way that is not appropriate for your subject or topic, or in a way that is out of character with the rest of the paper.
- Your conclusion includes extra information that is not properly connected with the rest of the paper and which leaves an impression of confusion.

How can you improve your formal concluding statement(s)?
