



ELA Virtual Learning

AP Literature & Composition

April 23, 2020



AP Literature & Composition

Lesson: Wednesday, April 23, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will be able to organize and structure their conclusion paragraph in a clear, precise manner.

Success Starter: The Why of Conclusions

Warm-up writing activity (write on your own sheet of paper)
Today's lesson will be focusing on the conclusion paragraph (and in that, reviewing your intro and thesis statement).

- 1. Choose a favorite movie. Think about the goals (or the mission) of the protagonist at the beginning of the film. Now summarize the ending of your favorite movie (mentally or you can write it down).**
- 2. Now, write down the 3 most important things that happened at the movie's end. After you list those, for each important thing, write a statement that explains why each event had to happen.**

Success Starter: The Why of Conclusions

3. Lastly, write a short paragraph about how the ending of your favorite movie (with these three points in mind) connects to the beginning. What did the protagonist set out to do? How did this change from beginning to end?



Constructing a conclusion paragraph

Think of all the writing you have completed this week (and in the past weeks). Take an intro paragraph and thesis statement that you have recently written.

On the same sheet of paper as your *Success Starter* activity, start writing a conclusion paragraph.

As you write, work to connect your conclusion paragraph to your intro/thesis statement. Connect them in order to create a *cycle* of your writing. **Avoid** summarizing or simply regurgitating your intro paragraph.



Constructing a conclusion paragraph

Student example 1 of connecting a conclusion to intro paragraph

As you read through this student example, write down notes and ideas of how the student effectively tied the two paragraphs together without simply summarizing/re-wording the conclusion. What did they write well? What suggestions would you give this student?



Constructing a conclusion paragraph

A second approach...

Read through this list of [Universal Themes](#)

Apply any of these themes to the conclusion paragraph you have been working on (you could even try out one of the Universal Themes with your Success Starter about the conclusion of your favorite movie).

Use these questions to strengthen your conclusion and keep it connected to your intro:

What's the answer to the question? How does the author develop this?

Why is this important? (tie your answer to the Universal Theme selected here)

Constructing a conclusion paragraph

Before moving on, read over your conclusion paragraph (from Slide 5). Check for any corrections or changes.

Also, double-check with the student sample given (Slide 6). Does your conclusion paragraph effectively echo or mirror your intro paragraph/thesis statement?

Does your conclusion clearly have a Universal Theme? Does the writing within your conclusion paragraph answer why the Universal Theme of your essay is important?



Student Self-Assessment Checklist - Writing a conclusion

- ___ conclusion reads like an “echo” or “whisper” of the intro
- ___ thesis statement reads like it is connected to conclusion, but not repeated word for word.
- ___ Conclusion is true to your voice as a writer
- ___ Conclusion *concludes* the essay’s “so what” and big picture “why”



Additional Resources

[AP Literature instructional video - formulating a solid essay \(for the Longer Fiction/Drama question\)](#)

[Writing the perfect introduction and conclusion](#)