

Grade 7: Writing a Supportive Concluding Statement for an Argument

Aligns with CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.1.E:

- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Welcome

Not all essays are meant to simply inform readers about a given subject. Instead, argumentative or persuasive essays are used to show why a certain idea or viewpoint is right. By using sound reasoning and evidence, writers attempt to convince readers to adopt their point of view or take a specific action. The concluding statement is one of the most important aspects of an argumentative essay. It allows writers an opportunity to reinforce, or support, the argument. Because concluding statements are the last words that a reader sees, it's important for writers to craft effective conclusions that follow from and support the argument presented in the rest of the text.

Objectives

In this module, students will learn how to:

- provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

Review

Key Terms

- A **conclusion** or **concluding statement** is the final statement or idea that writers leave with their readers at the end of a piece of writing. A conclusion can be as short as one sentence or as long as a paragraph.

Exploring the Standard

A strong conclusion is a vital part of an argumentative essay. In the conclusion, writers restate and/or emphasize the purpose and main ideas of the text in order to show the importance or merit of the argument presented. Rather than introducing new arguments or evidence in the conclusion, writers focus on how the existing ideas in the paper work together. Focusing on these connections ensures that a conclusion follows from and supports the argument presented. This helps persuade the reader that a writer's point of view is the best position to take on an issue.

A Closer Look: The Role of a Concluding Statement

Writers develop concluding statements based on the arguments and research presented in the text. More specifically, they develop them to reflect and support the main ideas and purpose described in the introduction and the evidence presented in the body paragraphs. Writers want to make connections between the main ideas and supporting ideas in the conclusion to show how all the pieces of an argument fit together. This serves to accomplish the main goal of an argumentative essay, which is to persuade the reader of a certain point of view or to inspire the reader to take a particular action.



However, while there are some elements to include in any effective conclusion, it's important to remember that every essay is different. Writers must craft conclusions to suit the specific needs of their papers. For example, the length of a conclusion can also vary depending on the writing.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when determining the appropriate length for a concluding statement:

- Most standard essays devote a single paragraph to the conclusion.
- Longer research papers or very complex arguments may require multiple concluding paragraphs.
- A concluding statement can sometimes be boiled down to a couple sentences, or even just one.
- Brief conclusions are typically used for shorter, simpler arguments that do not require much summary or analysis.

In addition, writers sometimes use concluding words to help end a text while also emphasizing the importance of evidence or the relationship between ideas. Read the following chart, which lists words and phrases that commonly signal a conclusion or concluding statement.

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

Hint!

Although conclusion words are useful, they can sometimes make writing sound forced. It's best to use them sparingly to avoid overwhelming the reader.

Watch!

Watch the following video to learn about some basic rules to follow when drafting a conclusion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYhd5hadWhY>

A Closer Look: Strategies for Writing Effective and Supportive Conclusions

In an argumentative essay, a conclusion can be used to fulfill a variety of goals, depending on what the writers want to achieve. It can be used to change the reader's viewpoint, to call the reader to take action on an issue, or to convince the reader to accept the writer's ideas. No matter which outcome a writer seeks, the most effective conclusion is one that follows logically from and supports the argument presented.

