

## Conclusions

Like the introduction, the conclusion is a necessary part of an essay. Since the conclusion is the last thing a writer puts in the reader's mind, that conclusion should be a high point. It should be strong, interesting, and convincing.

An effective conclusion adds to the reader's understanding of the essay. The first part of the closing might tie together the important points in the essay. Then the final lines may make a connection between the essay and the reader's experience or between the essay and life in general. Below are examples of several different types of concluding statements.

- **Answer the question "So what?"**

Thus, if you permit students with low grades to play sports or join clubs, you will send the message to students that grades really don't matter, that there is no penalty for not doing your first job as a student.

- **Tell the readers what you want them to do.**

Therefore, I am asking that you consider what effects not being able to play a sport will have on students with low grades. Don't make the decision in your office; go out and talk to the people your decision will affect the most.

- **Make a prediction or warning about the future.**

If you prevent students with low grades from being able to participate in clubs and sports, you will have an even higher dropout rate than ever before. Higher dropout rates will not get you re-elected to office in the next election.

- **Pose a question for future study.**

Since I believe that students should have good grades to play sports or join clubs, I suggest you conduct some research. Why don't you see how many students who worked hard in high school to stay eligible went on to further success later in their lives? You may find that they are much more successful than students who got to play without any grade requirements.

- **Include an anecdote that exemplifies or proves the earlier points.**

To this day, my next-door neighbor wishes he had been made to study in his classes in high school. He had no minimum requirements. Unfortunately, today he has no skills either. I am sure he is not the only person with this problem.