

WRITING EFFECTIVE CONCLUSIONS

One of the first things a reader remembers after having read a piece of writing is the last words the writer uses. For that reason, a writer should understand and take advantage of the power of an effective conclusion. **Effective conclusions** are particularly important in persuasive essays since they are the last chance the writer has to convince the reader. The following is a collection of **suggestions for writing effective conclusions**.

1. **Use a summary statement** rather than phrase like the following: “In summary..., To conclude..., To summarize..., or In closing...” These are too obvious and vague to be effective. Use a transitional phrase which summarizes a point in your essay instead. A sample summary statement is as follows: “As we have seen, poverty is a known contributor to crime; therefore, it should not be discounted when considering ways to prevent crime.”
2. **Use a quotation**, such as “As a man thinks, so is he,” when your paper has just explained how negative thinking has created problems for someone.
- 3.