

Conclusions: The Final Important Statement

The final sentence (or sentences) in a paragraph is often called the **conclusion**. This sentence(s) can also be called the **clincher** or **closing statement**. Whatever it is called, this sentence(s) reinforces the topic sentence; it reminds the reader of the position—the purpose—of the paper.

Sample Topic Sentence: Many students would agree with Eeyore when he says, “This writing business—pencils and what-not—is overrated. Silly stuff. Nothing in it.”

from *Eeyore’s Gloomy Little Instruction Book*. Dutton Books: New York.

Sample “Final Statements”

A conclusion is the most formal.

Students might want to support Eeyore’s stand on writing, but to compete in the modern world all students will need to spend a great deal of time mastering spelling, grammar, and organization skills.

A closing statement is clear and direct.

Eeyore is right; my middle and high school English classes have been mostly filled with a lot of “silly stuff.”

A clincher feels a bit more friendly and may express more emotion.

Eeyore may be right. “This writing business” is probably a bit overrated unless of course you want to graduate, get a job, pay your bills, and, in general, enjoy life.

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All three terms work. Choose the one that fits the assignment and that fits the purpose of the piece that you are writing.

