

How to Write Convincing and Pertinent Opinion texts

Part 3: Writing a Conclusion

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The Parts of the Conclusion

Sentence 1: Summarize
Sentence 2: Final thought

Opinion Text	Approx. 225 words
Introduction	Approx. 40 words
Body	Approx. 145 words
Conclusion	Approx. 40 words

Summarizing your text should
be done in ONE or TWO sentences

TIP

Sentence 1: Summarize

Sentence 2 Final thought



Restate your arguments using different words

Sentence 1: Summarize

Sentence 2: Final thought



Techniques used for final thoughts	Examples
1. End with a recommendation	People should never eat at the school cafeteria.
2. End with a warning	Be careful if you eat at the school cafeteria!
3. Ask a relevant question	Would you eat disgusting food?
4. Open the debate to a wider context	Schools should not encourage unhealthy habits.

Task 1A: Identify which techniques are used for the final thoughts.
Drag the numbers below into the table on the following page.

Topic sentence: Five-year old children should not be beauty queens.

1 And what about parents who encourage this industry?
What can be said about them?

2 Beauty contests should be for adults only once
you have developed your personality.

3 Beauty contests put too much emphasis on how girls look
and this will make them superficial.

4 Can we not put our energy into finding other ways to
maximize a girl's potential?

Answers	Techniques used for final thoughts
	1. End with a recommendation
	2. End with a warning
	3. Ask a relevant question
	4. Open the debate to a wider context

Task 1B: Practice using the techniques used for final thoughts.

Topic sentence:

Teenagers should not be allowed to eat junk food.

Answers	Techniques used for final thoughts
	1. End with a recommendation
	2. End with a warning
	3. Ask a relevant question
	4. Open the debate to a wider context

Topic sentence:

You must get a parenting certificate before you are allowed to have children.

Answers	Techniques used for final thoughts
	1. End with a recommendation
	2. End with a warning
	3. Ask a relevant question
	4. Open the debate to a wider context

Task 1-C: Read the following example and highlight the parts of the conclusion.

Topic sentence: Curfews are a great idea for teenagers and especially for parents.

Paragraph 1: Curfews will reduce the number of night road accidents.
In Alabama, changes are noticeable.

Paragraph 2: Curfews will save our cities from graffiti and vandalism.
Police officers arrested a teen last week at 2AM.

Conclusion: Many types of incidents will not happen if teens stay at home at night instead of being out. What if curfews could save a few lives?

Sentence 1: Summarize

Sentence 2: Final thought

Topic sentence: Professional racing should be banned.

Paragraph 1: Races pollute.
The CO2 emissions from races contribute to global warming

Paragraph 2: Twenty race cars running for 2-3 hours in circle is a waste of energy.
Oil is a precious resource and should be treated as such.

Conclusion: Racing is damaging for the Earth and a waste of precious resources. In the long run, our children will pay the price of such foolish human activities.

Task 2 : What's Wrong with the Conclusions?

1. Read the following conclusions
2. Eliminate the sentences that do not belong
3. Find what is missing

Topic sentence: We should pay students to go to school.

Paragraph 1: Students would be more motivated to have good grades if they were paid.
A Danish study has shown an increase in short-term motivation.

Paragraph 2: Parents are usually for paying students.
A survey of parents showed a 76% approval to this position.

Conclusion:

I am really for this idea. Most students agree that paying them to go to school is a great idea. The question is: does it work forever or does it only work for a year?

Sentence 1: Summarize

Sentence 2: Final thought

Topic sentence: Teenagers should not be allowed to drive.

Paragraph 1: Teen drivers are not careful.
Teen drivers are involved in more accidents than for the rest of the population.

Paragraph 2: Teens feel invincible and that makes them dangerous.
My friends were almost all fined for speeding.

Conclusion:

In my opinion, teens are good drivers in general. We should give them a chance.

Topic sentence : The cafeteria is slowly but surely killing you.

Paragraph 1 : Cafeterias serve a lot of processed food that contain a lot of salt and sugar. Eating these types of food creates health problems in the long run.

Paragraph 2 : Cafeterias don't offer a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables. They say that they are too expensive.

Conclusion : Cafeteria food is definitely bad for you. I think it tastes bad and looks bad. I don't care if it is cheap. I am against it. We should make it a priority to offer only nutritious foods to students so they can learn better.

Task 3: Practice Writing a Conclusion

Read the information provided and write a conclusion.

Topic Sentence: Cell phones should not be allowed in school.

Paragraph 1: It has been proven that cell phones disturb learning. Students check their phones in average every five minutes.

Paragraph 2: They are not necessary at all. If there was a real emergency, parents and students can reach each other with a regular phone.

Conclusion:

Sentence 1:

Sentence 2:

Now show your text to a partner. Your partner must highlight your text.

Sentence 1: Summarize

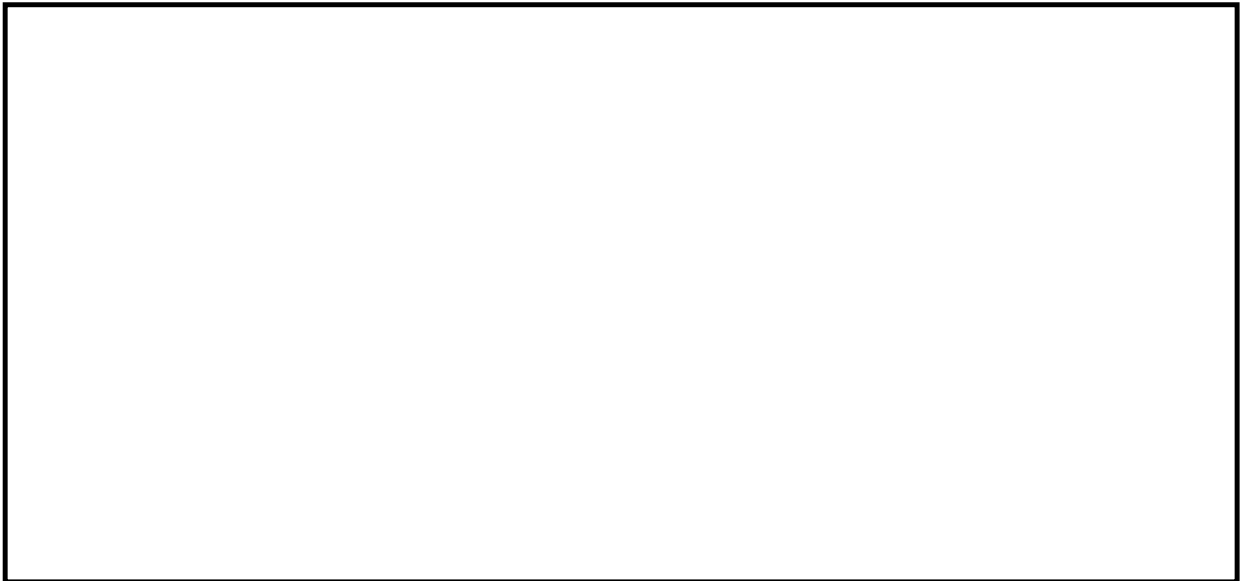
Sentence 2: Final thought

Finally, share your text with the whole class.

Task 4: Write YOUR Conclusion

Go back to Parts 1 and 2 (Writing an Introduction and Writing a Body).

Reread what you wrote up to now and write the conclusion to this text.



Show your conclusion to a partner.

Ask him/her how to highlight the different parts and suggestions of improvement.

Sentence 1: Summarize

Sentence 2: Final thought

Reflect on Learning: What have you learned from this lesson?

Share your answers with a partner.