Closing sentence or concluding sentence

A **closing sentence** serves as a reminder to the reader about the main point of the paragraph. It is typically written by paraphrasing, summarizing or restating the topic sentence without changing its original idea. To signal the end of a paragraph, the writer can use transitional words or linking words such as *in short, in a nutshell, in summary, overall, all in all, finally, to sum up, as a result, to conclude*, and so on; many more transitional words can be found online. The linking or transitional words create a cohesive reading and writing flow between complex ideas. After using a transitional word to signal the end of a paragraph, a comma is usually included. However, some experienced writers may conclude a paragraph without transitional words, instead of relying on their writing context and style. Regardless of the approach, the closing sentence should summarize the main point of the paragraph, reinforcing the **controlling idea**.

Take a look to the closing sentence of the paragraph below.

To achieve a university degree requires a thesis writing and its defense. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field. Watch the next videos and take notes from them. <u>https://youtu.be/JuGGRAS4kjc</u> <u>https://youtu.be/fnz4G8B9Hmc</u>

Now, analyze the following topic sentences and their corresponding closing sentences. Mark with a check if the closing sentence restates the topic sentence. If the closing sentence does not accurately restate the topic, rewrite it. Verify your answers at the end of this session.

	Topic and closing sentences			
	Examples	Right	Wrong	
1	Customers come back again for many reasons. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea) In summary, reliable service, high-quality products, and			
	swift availability give clients the confidence to return. (Closing sentence).			
2	The best ways of service will keep customers to come back. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea).			

	In summary, the most effective ways to ensure that customers always to come back are to be reliable, efficient and all above be very courteous. (Closing sentence).	
3	Personality is constructed by nature and nurture. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	
	There can be no doubt that social environment and our genes determine our personality traits. (Closing sentence)	
4	People's personality is the result of social environment and genetics. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	
	As a result, nurture and nature are key remarkable factors to influence human personalities. (Closing sentence).	
5	My favourite university subject was phonology. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea). Thus, the study of speech sounds become the best subject in	
	my major studies. (Closing sentence).	
6	Alcohol, smoking and promiscuity may ruin your life silently. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	
	Altogether, tough life may be the result of some addictions such as drink, smoke and a messy sexual behaviour. (Closing sentence).	
7	A good thesis is based on academic literature and statistical analyses. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	
	Literature review and some statistical analyses proved the H1 hypothesis (Closing sentence).	

Finally, the **conclusion or concluding sentence**, it (Oshima & Hogue, 2006) presents some words and phrases to include when finalizing the last part of a paragraph. It means the conclusion or concluding sentence (p.14).

The words are generally followed by a comma (,).

Finally,
In brief,
In conclusion, (overused)
In summary, (overused)
Indeed,
In short,
Lastly,
Therefore,
Thus,
To sum up.

Nonetheless, the are some phrases which end the paragraph beautifully. They are followed by the conjunction *that* to introduce a subordinated clause, instead of a comma.

The evidence suggests *that* ... There can be no doubt *that* ... These examples show *that* ... We can see *that* ...

Finally, complete your paragraph by inserting a closing sentence. Your paragraph must refer to a previous **reading article already done by you**.



Verify your answers over here.

	Topic and closing sentences		
	Examples	Right	Wrong
1	Customers come back again for many reasons. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	V	
	In summary, reliable service, high-quality products, and swift availability give clients the confidence to return. (Closing sentence).		
2	The best ways of service will keep customers to come back. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea).	\checkmark	
	In summary, the most effective ways to ensure that customers always to come back are to be reliable, efficient and all above be very courteous. (Closing sentence).		
3	Personality is constructed by nature and nurture. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	V	
	There can be no doubt that social environment and our genes determine our personality traits. (Closing sentence)		
4	People's personality is the result of social environment and genetics. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	\checkmark	
	As a result, nurture and nature are key remarkable factors to influence human personalities. (Closing sentence).		
5	My favourite university subject was phonology. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea).	V	
	Thus, the study of speech sounds become the best subject in my major studies. (Closing sentence).		
6	Alcohol, smoking and promiscuity may ruin your life silently. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	\checkmark	
	Altogether, tough life may be the result of some addictions such as drink, smoke and a messy sexual behaviour. (Closing sentence).		
7	A good thesis is based on academic literature and statistical analyses. (Topic sentence and its controlling idea)	X	
	Literature review and some statistical analyses proved the H1 hypothesis (Closing sentence).		

Item number 7 is wrong because the closing sentence is not accurately at all. Even though the closing sentence mentions the controlling idea, a new idea has been included such as the acceptance of the H1 hypothesis. It would read that the topic sentence was not paraphrased or restated entirely. Finally, the closing sentence does not final the end of the paragraph since there is not a linking or transitional word to guide the reader.

To end this paragraph, I provided examples of *prediction*, ...*suggestion* and *reflection* for a better comprehension of the text.

"A college degree is not a sign that one is a finished product but an indication a person is prepared for life", Edward Malloy. I need to write a thesis and defence it to achieve a college degree. The process of writing a thesis begins when a student selects a narrowed research topic that will contribute to the student's field of study. To do so, the student needs to write many drafts to refine their work until their thesis supervisor deems it to be acceptable according to the academic standards of the institution. Essentially, the thesis must include several key sections such as an introduction, a literature review, a methodology, results and a conclusion. The writing procedure ends when the thesis writer presents and defends orally their research findings and answers questions posed by an academic jury, who are most of the cases professors in the field. The oral defense assesses student' ability to conduct independent research, analytical and public speaking skills, time management as well as their proficiency in using digital tools. For example, the speaker needs to prove to the academic jury that they are knowledgeable in detailed about their own research from the beginning to the end. In short, a student needs to complete academic research and its oral defense to prove their understanding in the studied field.(prediction). (closing sentence or hook)

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