

19. Writing your Conclusion

1) Which of these things should your conclusion do?

- summarize the main points of your essay
- restate the thesis statement (using different words)
- make a final comment about your essay's main idea
- introduce some new information

2) How long should your conclusion be?

3) Read the conclusion below and answer the questions.

As the world becomes more and more globalized, it seems that some countries are trying to find a balance between being “multi-cultural” and keeping their own identity. Japan, while inviting thousands of English speakers to the country to educate its population, still seems to worry about the potential problems of foreigners living in Japan, and has introduced measures that it thinks is protecting the country, but many people see as an abuse of human rights.

The fingerprinting of foreign nationals entering Japan should be stopped as soon as possible. It is discriminatory, it breaks up families, and it doesn't make Japan any safer. If the Japanese government cannot understand this, they will have a difficult time trying to keep up with the global community.

4) Where is the (restated) thesis statement of the essay? Underline it.

5) What do you think is the final comment of this conclusion?

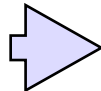
1. Summarizing the main points

Remind the reader of your most important arguments! Remember - the conclusion is your last chance to convince your reader that your thesis statement is true!

2. Restating the thesis statement

You should remind the reader of your thesis statement in the conclusion, but rephrase it. Look at this example:

The Japanese government should stop fingerprinting foreigners who enter Japan.



The fingerprinting of foreign nationals entering Japan should be stopped as soon as possible

3. Making a final statement

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. it may give advice 2. it may give a warning 3. it may make a prediction 4. it may ask a question | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. it may use a quote 6. it may use a proverb (Japanese or English) 7. it may use an analogy |
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- Americans must ask themselves which is more important, the right to own a gun, or the safety of our families?
- I think that in the future, the American government will create gun laws that make America a safer place to live.
- Just as a parent is responsible for making rules to keep their children safe, the government must be responsible for making laws to keep society safe.
- If stricter gun laws are not introduced soon, many more innocent Americans will die.
- I think Michael Moore said it best when he said “America is one of the greatest countries in the world. Why shouldn’t its citizens have the greatest safety in the world?”
- In order to ensure the safety of Americans, the American government should introduce the laws I have suggested in this paper.
- In Japanese there is a saying “Ayamachitewa aratamuruni habakaru koto nakare” (If you make a mistake, don't hesitate to correct it). Maybe now is the time for the American government to correct its mistake.

4) Read the conclusions below and answer the questions.

Compared with other countries, Japanese economics education is declining. Most Japanese high school students don't notice the importance of economics because they are concentrating on examinations. Not until they become businessmen do they notice it. This is too late and they have to learn about economics earlier. Studying economics is not only effective for business, but also for human nature. Studying economics helps us think about things more rationally and accurately.

Economics has unlimited power. Now, newly industrialized countries have surpassed the Japanese economy and they are above us in the world economic ranking. We need to improve the Japanese economy, and the first step is for Japanese high schools to improve their economics teaching. Japan has great techniques, engineers, managers and companies. To protect them, we must improve students, teachers and experts together.

What kind of final statement does this conclusion have? _____
 Underline the restated thesis statement.

Recently, the price of various things have been going up, for example, wheat, beer and eggs. But it is not only food prices that are rising - the charges for electricity, gas and water have also recently been rising. If the gasoline tax rises as much as it has been, many people will not be able to drive a car in the future. And it is not a mistake that the gasoline tax is a problem that damages the household economy.

Of course, we shouldn't think only about current problems. It is important that we learn from the ecological movement in other countries, but the Japanese gasoline tax needs to be reduced and the revenue should be used for society's real needs such as social security or health services, not building new roads.

This problem needs measures taken quickly. Otherwise the current business recession will become worse. The government should ask itself - is the gasoline tax really helping the country?

What kind of final statement does this conclusion have? _____
 Underline the restated thesis statement.