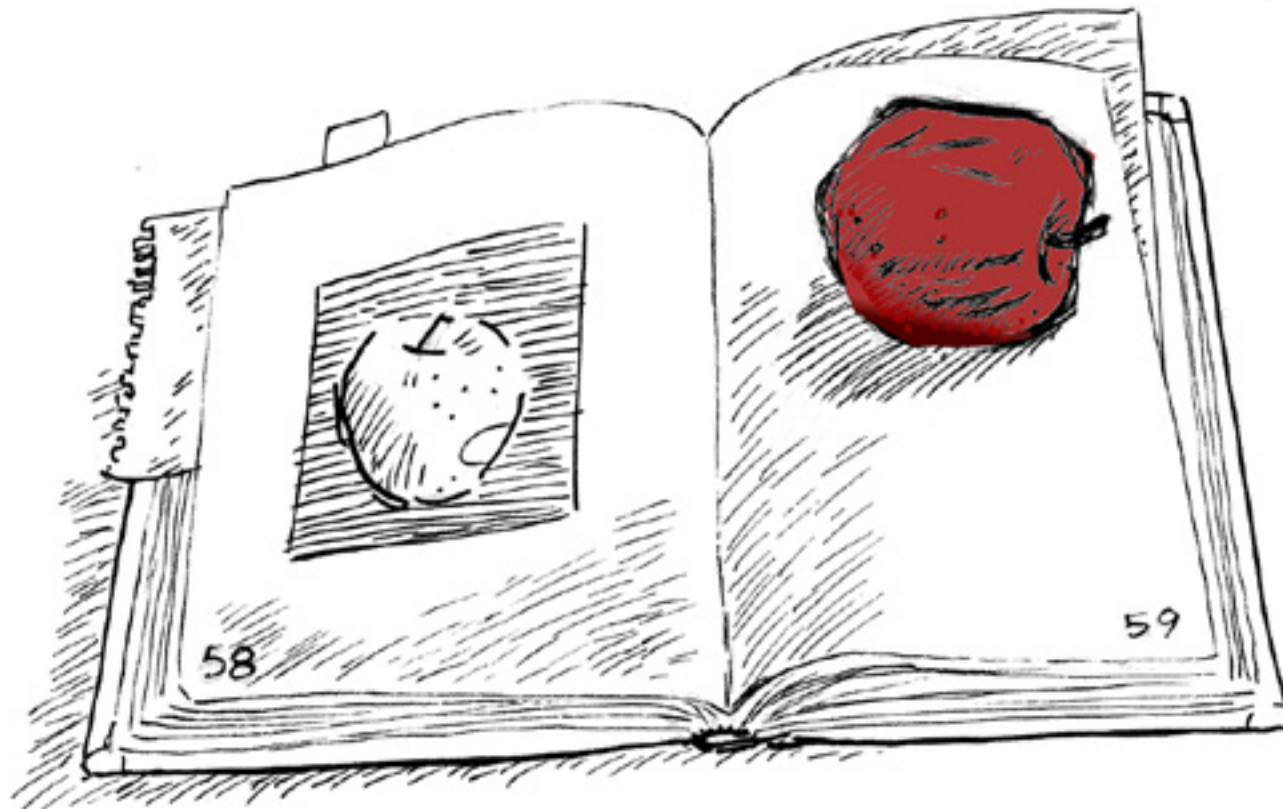


Conclusions



Conclusion Strategies

A basic understanding of the conclusion:

This section of the essay does more than review main topic points.

- reinforces your thesis through reviewing the original declaration
utilizing new phrasing and words; never simply duplicate the thesis
- stresses your most important point
- reinforces the paper's initial purpose and any new concepts you created
- provides a sense of closure to the essay

Conclusion Strategies

Depending on circumstances the conclusion may exceed 5 sentences.

- however, do not quote or paraphrase outside resources in the last paragraph
- the material presented here should echo the previous body paragraphs
- do not introduce newer topics you have not already discussed
- *however*, do present strongest evidence which sums up previous arguments
- or which summarizes your main ideas
- *keep in mind, your audience will best recall your last paragraph;*
if you are lucky they may remember some key details from your research

Close with a series of sentences that will stay with your readers.

Conclusion Strategies

There are multiple options available for closure:

- review main points without repeating word-for-word topic sentences—
you want to avoid repeating information your readers have already discovered
- recommend a course of action to your audience—
in this manner you can suggest a way of remedying a controversial issue or
propose a compromise
- predict a future resolution or conflict based on your research

Avoid:

- using cliché phrases to open the final paragraph:
‘In conclusion...’
- do not close with a cliché expression or artificial phrase:
‘This goes to show, one should never judge a book by its cover.’

Conclusion Strategies

Closing Transition Words or Phrases:

- as a result to summarize key points
 - therefore to sum up the situation
 - to review ultimately
 - to conclude finally
-
- These keep the reader aware of your strategy throughout the essay.
 Transitions subconsciously alert the reader what pattern you are using.

Conclusion Strategies

From past readings:

“As he buckled the swollen belt suddenly my groin felt the chill of death.”

E.B. White || “Once More to the Lake”

“Looking back once, I saw the mountain and came away.”

N. Scott Momaday || “The Way to Rainy Mountain”

“My dream of the jungle was not without its reward.”

Isabel Allende || “The Amazon Queen”

My proposal would lead us more quickly to boredom and away from our current gratifying excitement—and ultimately perhaps to a wiser use of alternating current.

Arthur Miller || “Get it Right: Privatize Executions”