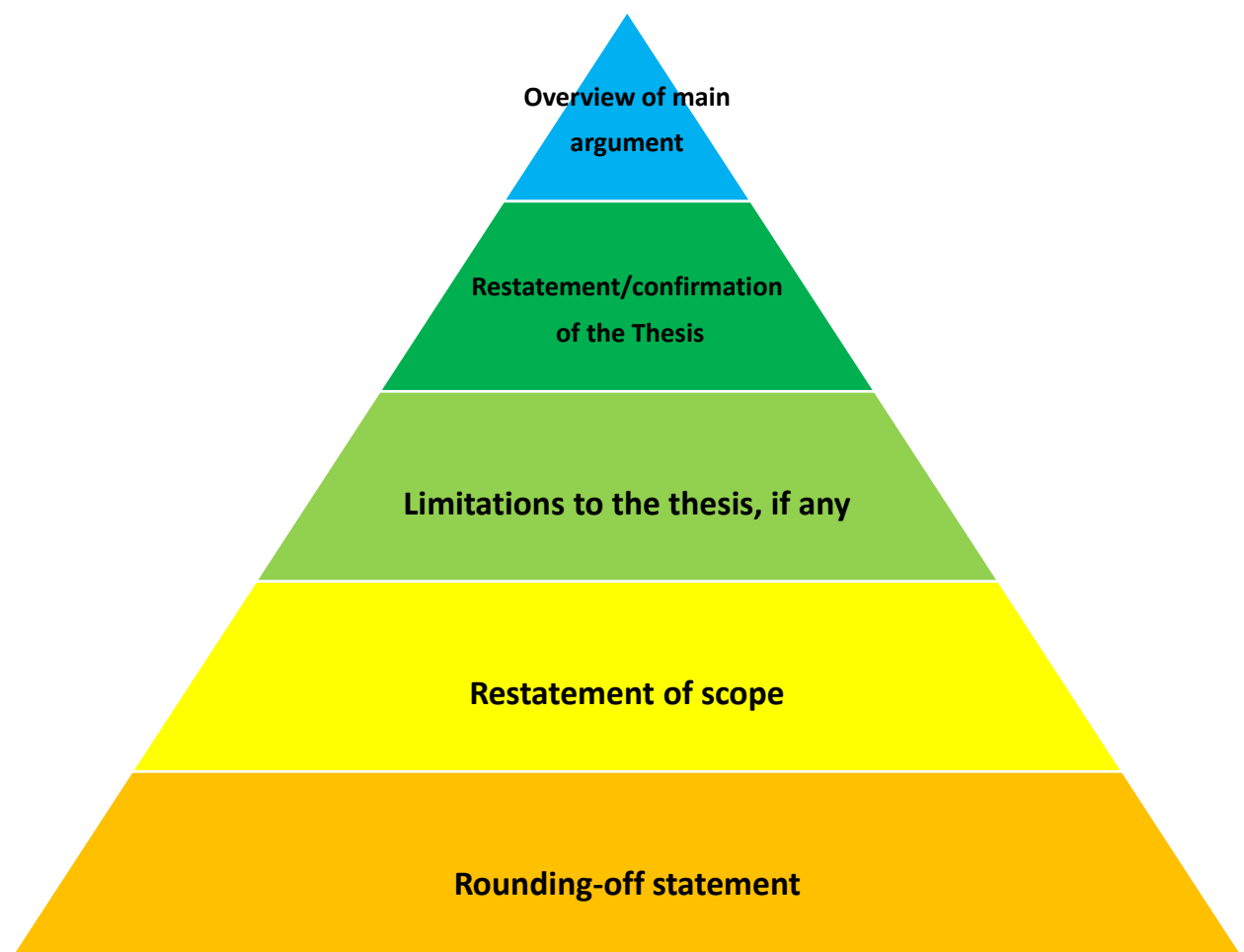


Writing Conclusions

By the end of this session, you will know the components of a conclusion and strategies to write an effective conclusion.

You need to leave a strong impression to your reader. You do this by reiterating the position you argued in the introduction and in the body (in particular for an argumentative essay). This does not mean that you repeat, because by now, your readers are familiar with your arguments or your claims and the support you have found from the literature. So the conclusion tells your reader: *“Now you can see why I hold such stance after reading the evidence and support”*.

Typical components of a conclusion:



Task one Read this essay prompt and analyze it for instruction, content, value and scoping words:

Young liberals in Australia have added little to the long-established formal and informal processes which have governed the operations of the Party structure for decades. Analyze the accuracy or otherwise of this assertion with reference to at least two levels of Party processes.

Now, read the introduction to this essay on:

http://writesite.elearn.usyd.edu.au/m3/m3u3/m3u3s3/m3u3s3_3.htm

Task two: Read the conclusion and try to find the various components.

Task three Read this essay prompt and analyze it for instruction, content, value and scoping words:

“The schooling attainment of children in developing countries is affected by four main factors: the number of siblings in the family, the gender composition of the siblings, the child’s gender and the child’s position in the birth order.” Discuss this statement in relation to at least one developing country.

Task four: Read the conclusion and try to find the various components.

This essay has examined the impact of gender, birth order and sibling characteristics on the schooling attainment of children in urban and rural areas of Egypt. Based on a thorough analysis of research findings to date, it has been argued that not only do gender and birth order have a strong negative impact on schooling opportunities, but also that the number and sex composition of the children in the family play a large part in determining an individual’s access to schooling. Although it is clear from the literature that other factors such as rural or urban location also impact on schooling attainment, it nonetheless appears that sibling number, sex composition of families, birth order and gender are indeed the main factors contributing to inequality of access to schooling opportunities and outcomes for children in developing countries.

Task five Deconstruction of a conclusion: what language features do you notice (see the table of features)

<p>Textual cohesion How does the writer refer back to the text? Thematic progression?</p>	
<p>Expressing complex logical links between sentences What resources does the write use? Conjunctions, complex clauses</p>	
<p>To discuss abstract concepts: noun groups</p>	
<p>Evaluation and Appraisal: how does the writer show his/her stance? Are there any references to external sources? How? Are there any endorsing/distancing features?</p>	

Task Six Group construction

Remember the prompt we used to write an introduction:

Prompt 1:

Persisting low education levels have led to problems even in rich countries such as the USA. Discuss one problem linked with low educational levels and evaluate the existing solutions before suggesting new or improved measures.

Read the two different introductions to the essay:

Sample 1 for prompt 1:

Educational levels have impacted our societies in many positive ways. These include improved standard of living, a better organized, harmonious and safe society. However, despite inclusive educational programs, in the US, many still do not pursue their education and do not benefit from these possible impacts. In urban communities in cities such as Chicago, for example, only 5% make it to University and over 35% drop out before high school. This disenfranchised youth can become vulnerable to anti-social behaviours such as committing crimes. Indeed, this correlation between low educational levels and higher crime rates is shown in cities like x and Y (add source). This essay will discuss the increased crime rate associated with lower educational levels in urban areas of major cities in the US. It will then show that current solutions that focus on punishment and incarceration have proved ineffective and will propose a new strategy to address this serious problem.

(joint written by students)

Sample 2 for prompt 1

High educational levels are usually associated with benefits such as better quality of life, stronger economy, and a harmonious, tolerant society (Trump, 2016). People with a good education tend to be logical, stable and open-minded (Ibid). However, some poorer communities do not have access to these benefits. This lack of education, among other problems, can lead to some people becoming vulnerable to extremist ideas. This essay will describe the rise of extremist ideas among some lower educated individuals in the US. It will explain why the current approaches to addressing this problem lack effectiveness and will suggest improved ways to tackle the rising levels of intolerance recently observed in some sections of US society (jointly written by students)

In groups, write a conclusion to round off the essay opened by introduction 1 or 2.