DRAFTING A CONCLUSION

What is your thesis?  

What is the most important part of your thesis?  

Your paper should be about this topic. If your paper is not about this topic your thesis is probably not accurately representing your paper. Consider revising it. Without a strong thesis your conclusion has no foundation to be built on!

Answer the question “So what?”

- After spending the time to read your paper what should the reader take from it?
- Why was your paper important?
- Why should they care about what they just read?

Relate your topic to the reader’s “real world”

Give the reader something to think about that relates to their life.

- Will your reader be affected by the main topic or argument of your paper in their future? In what ways could it possibly affect them?
- Make the reader realize that they do care about your topic – whether they knew it before or not.
- Consider posing a question, challenging the reader to take action of some sort, or echoing your introduction in a full-circle type conclusion.

Draft your final conclusion

Restate your thesis in a new way – don’t just replace certain words with possible synonyms! Focus on the most important idea of your thesis, incorporate your answer to the “So what?” prompt, relate the topic to the readers world, and make sure you don’t introduce any new ideas. Your conclusion: