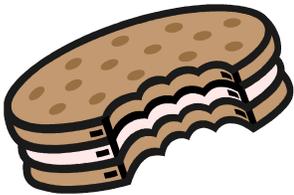


Lesson 4: Concluding Sentences

The concluding sentence is the final sentence in a paragraph. The sentence is usually general, and it signals the reader that the paragraph is finished. It may be a restatement of the topic sentence, and it may summarize the information in the paragraph.

Let's review a paragraph from the lesson on Supporting Sentences. The concluding sentence is a good example of a restatement of the topic sentence.



My Aunt Marie's recipe for Disappearing Cookies is easy for anyone to follow. First, gather all the ingredients onto the counter and turn the oven on. Second, mix the ingredients in a large bowl. Next spoon the batter onto cookie sheets in small mounds. After that, bake the cookies in the oven. Finally, after the cookies have cooled, call in the family and watch them disappear. Following the recipe is easy, and eating them is even easier.

It's helpful to visualize the topic sentence and the concluding sentence together to understand the close relationship they have:

My Aunt Marie's recipe for Disappearing Cookies is easy for anyone to follow. Following the recipe is easy, and eating them is even easier.

Concluding paragraphs restate the topic sentence, remind the reader of the general nature of the paragraph, and may contain synonyms of words used in the topic sentence.

Topic Sentence	Concluding Sentence
...is easy for anyone to follow	Following the recipe is easy...
My family likes to take short vacations every weekend.	These short vacations are happy days that we enjoy together over the weekend.
You can learn to make egg rolls by following these easy steps.	Making egg rolls is easy if you follow these steps and practice often.
Dogs make the best house pets for most Americans.	For a great house pet and loving companion, Americans can't beat having a dog.

A. Choose the best **concluding sentence** for the topic sentences below.



1. Choosing a car can be tricky unless you follow these guide lines.
 - a. Choosing a car is a lot like choosing a horse.
 - b. It depends on the features that you feel are most important.
 - c. Following these information guides can lead you to a satisfying purchase.

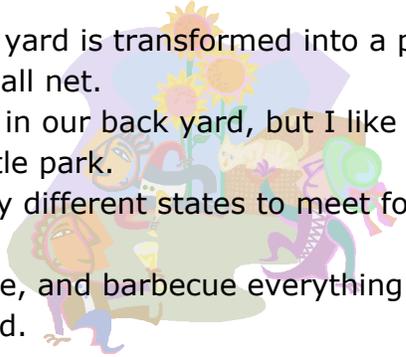


2. Education is the best thing you can do to advance your career.
 - a. Careers are built on experience, skill and education.
 - b. Education is necessary for professionals but not for laborers.
 - c. English is a skill you can learn to advance your career.



3. The horseless carriage was the single most important achievement of the 20th Century.
 - a. Cars have made our spheres larger, our wallets thinner, and our world much more attainable.
 - b. The wide-range of influence that the horseless carriage has made on all our lives began in the 20th Century, and is felt still today.
 - c. The horseless carriage, the industrial revolution and lowering the voting age were great achievements of the 20th Century.

4. When my family comes to visit, the back yard is transformed into a park with picnic tables, barbecue and, of course, the volleyball net.
 - a. Some say it's the family circus in our back yard, but I like to think of it as our family picnic in our own little park.
 - b. The relatives come from twenty different states to meet for two or three days, once a year.
 - c. We play volleyball, rain or shine, and barbecue everything – steak, fish, vegetables, even slices of bread.

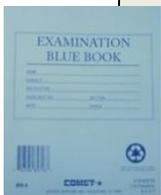


B. Write a concluding sentence to these topic sentences.

1. If you want to become a fire fighter you must study and train for many years.

2. The dinosaur known as Tyrannosaurus Rex lived about 65 million years ago.

3. My Aunt Maria was the glue that held the family together during troubling times.



Blue Book Assignment 4: Concluding Sentences

Write a complete paragraph from one of the examples in B above, or choose a new topic. Write strong supporting sentences and a conclusion. Pay attention to grammar, spelling, punctuation and sentence structure. After your teacher edits your writing, you may rewrite your paragraph.