



The Writing Center

Directed Learning Activities



Conclusions

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructor: _____ Course: _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: All the activities in this DLA (3) must be completed in their entirety before meeting with a tutor and receiving credit. Where indicated, complete your work on this sheet.

Objective: Writing the concluding paragraph is often one of the trickiest parts of writing an essay. It provides a final impression of the essay; however, it can vary based on several factors: the topic of the essay and the techniques used in the introduction of the essay. Additionally, writers have several jobs to do in the conclusion: briefly recap the main idea of the essay and bring the essay to an effective close. Through handouts and other independent activities, you will learn various concluding strategies to craft an effective conclusion.

Activities (approximately 30-40 minutes): Follow the steps below and be prepared to explain your answers when you meet with a tutor. Please check off each box when you have completed the task.

1. Review the handout on conclusions. What are TWO things you should generally avoid in a conclusion? _____

2. Go to <http://www.mtsac.edu/instruction/humanities/writingcenter/dla.html> to read the sample essay "Sticks and Stones and Sports Teams Names" by Richard Estrada. Identify two good aspects of the conclusion, based on specific methods you learned from the lesson in the previous exercise, and write them below.

1. _____

2. _____
