**The CONCLUSION paragraph** is pretty straightforward, and has two parts:

1. The ***summary statement*** is sentences that restate the thesis in a fresh way to reinforce the essay's main idea. In these sentences you basically summarize the points you have made in your body paragraphs.

Look at your thesis statement again and rework it in a new way. Avoid repeating key words and phrases from the thesis statement because you don't want the summary statement to sound boring or repetitive. Using a thesaurus is a good way to find new, interesting words.

***DO NOT:***

-Introduce any new ideas. You’re closing your essay off

-Simply repeat your introduction

-Use “I think” or any similar weakened language

1. The ***clincher*** is a final thought which should create a lasting impression on the reader. The best way to do this is using one of the techniques below:

* **ANECDOTE:** A very short person comment/story that might be related to a personal comment made in your essay
* **PREDICTION/RECOMMENDATION:** Describe what might happen if the audience does not follow your argument, or provide a recommendation for your audience to take action
* **RHETORICAL QUESTION:** Ask a question with an obvious answer, which makes the audience think about the topic or thesis
* **EMOTION:** Leave your readers feeling a certain way. You might want to guilt them into action; make them angry, or some other emotion that causes them to do something.

***EXAMPLE:***

Although controversial, it is clear that the death penalty is an effective way to deal with society’s worst criminals. The cost savings from executing criminals makes sense compared to paying for their food and housing for an extended period. There is little doubt that a clear, strong consequence will lower crime rates as potential criminals understand that serious crimes could result in their death. Finally, victims of the most serious crimes will rest easier knowing that true justice has been served. Our society cannot let criminals set the rules. Otherwise, we will be dealing with the costs of an ever-growing prisoner population and a society where consequences do not match actions. Therefore it is clear: support the death penalty or support the criminals.