

# Concluding

## 1 what you say when concluding your essay or argument

▼ **in conclusion** a phrase used at the beginning of the final paragraph of an essay or article, when you want to write about the main things that you have mentioned in it:

- ***In conclusion***, the results of our study suggest that this type of diet is perfectly safe.
- Thus, ***in conclusion***, the population of England remained fairly stable for much of the 15th century.

▼ **to summarize/to sum up** used when referring to the main things that you have mentioned in it:

- ***To summarize***: there are many reasons why people commit crime.
- ***To sum up***, in 1922 the Soviet government found itself in a situation similar to the one faced by the Tsars.

### STUDY NOTE: Grammar

► You use **to summarize** and **to sum up** at the start of the final paragraph of an essay or article. They can be followed either by a colon or a comma.

▼ **sth can be summarized as follows** used when saying what you think the main points about something are:

- The organization's main aim ***can be summarized as follows***: to create opportunities for students to learn a wide range of computer skills.
- The result of the survey ***can be summarized as follows***. Both Japan and Korea show a strong preference for natural gas over oil, coal, and nuclear energy.

▼ **the following conclusion(s) may be drawn** used when you want to mention something that you think is true because of what has been written earlier in the article or essay:

- ***The following conclusions may be drawn*** from these figures. Firstly, the US economy is moving out of recession. Secondly, there are no grounds for concern about its immediate future.
- With regard to defense measures against attack from the air, ***the following conclusions may be drawn***. The best method of defense is a strong air force. The next requirement is a well-organized observation (radar) and warning system.

▼ **the main conclusion to be drawn is that** used when you want to mention the main point that you think is true because of what has been written earlier in the article or essay:

- ***The main conclusion to be drawn*** from this discussion ***is that*** the best way to help slow readers is to improve their skill at recognizing individual words.

## 2 saying again what your aims were at the conclusion of an essay

### STUDY NOTE: Grammar

► When you are writing the concluding paragraph of an essay, report etc, you often begin by saying what you wanted to achieve when you were writing the essay. The following are some phrases you can use.

▼ **the purpose/aim of this ... was to ...** used at the end of an essay, article, report, etc, when saying what its purpose was and whether you have succeeded, what you have found, etc:

- *The aim of this study was to determine whether it is possible to reduce the amount of salt in bread without spoiling its taste.*

▼ **in this ... I have tried/attempted to ...** used at the end of an essay, article, report, etc, when saying what its purpose was and whether you have succeeded, what you have found, etc:

- *In this essay, I have tried to set out the main events that led to the start of the First World War.*
- *In this report, we have attempted to demonstrate that although nuclear power is cleaner than using gas or coal, it is more expensive in the long-term.*