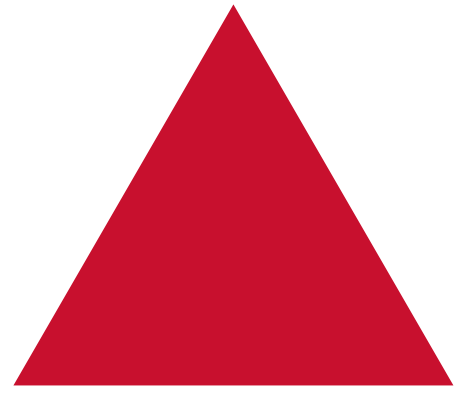


WRITING A CONCLUSION

TIPS FROM THE CARTHAGE WRITING FELLOWS

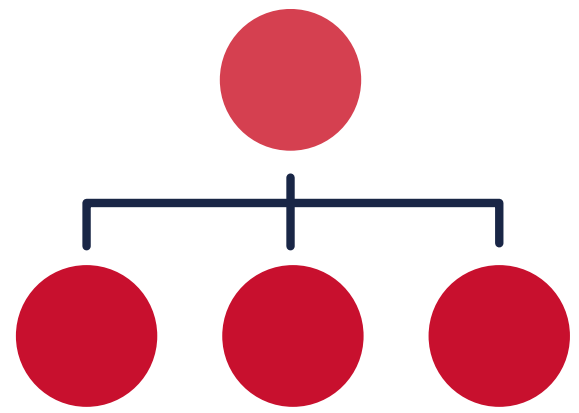
WHAT SHOULD A GOOD CONCLUSION LOOK LIKE?

A good conclusion essentially looks like a triangle (or “upside-down funnel”), which is the opposite of an introduction. We start with the specific and move into the general.



SYNTHESIZE, DON'T SUMMARIZE

Don't simply repeat what you've already stated in your paper, demonstrate how they fit together. Try calling back to the language or phrases you used in your introduction! Echo the introduction to bring the reader full-circle.



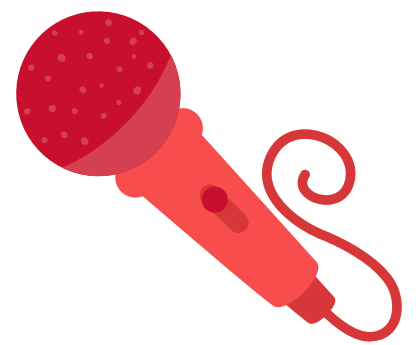
CREATE NEW MEANING

This doesn't mean using new information. Rather, demonstrate how your paper is greater than the sum of its parts by using your arguments to create new meaning.



SO WHAT?

Create a strong/memorable final sentence that answers the “so what?” question (think of this as your “mic drop” moment). Show the reader why this paper was meaningful, useful, or important.



A CONCLUSION SHOULD:

- Stress the importance of your thesis statement
- Help the paper feel complete by restating your arguments
- Leave a strong final impression with the reader

