

# **NAPLAN Big Finish**

25 Closers That Wow

Years 5-7

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## Introduction: Why Strong Endings Matter

"The ending is everything. Plan all the way to it, drive to it, and see that it's inevitable." — Adapted from writing wisdom

Imagine reading an exciting adventure story that suddenly stops with "The end." No resolution, no satisfaction, no lasting impression—just disappointment. That's exactly how NAPLAN markers feel when they encounter weak conclusions after investing time in reading a student's work.

Your conclusion is your final chance to impress the marker, cement your ideas, and leave them thinking, "That was brilliant!" Whether you're writing a narrative, persuasive essay, or expository piece, your ending determines whether your work is merely adequate or truly exceptional.

## **■ Weak Conclusions**

- "In conclusion..." repetition
- Abrupt stopping
- Simple summary only
- Forgettable endings
- Inconsistent tone

## Powerful Conclusions

- Memorable final impressions
- Emotional resonance
- Thought-provoking insights
- Satisfying closure
- Consistent voice throughout

This handbook contains 25 proven closing techniques specifically designed for Years 5-7 NAPLAN writing. Each technique is explained with clear examples, step-by-step guidance, and age-appropriate applications. You'll learn not just what to write, but how to choose the perfect ending for your specific piece.

## Remember:



## Section 1: The Psychology of Last Impressions

## Why Conclusions Are as Important as Introductions

Scientists have discovered something fascinating about human memory called the "recency effect"—we remember the last thing we experience most vividly. When NAPLAN markers finish reading your work, your conclusion is fresh in their minds as they assign your mark.

## The Marker's Journey:

First 30 seconds: Initial impression formed from introduction

**Middle section:** Content evaluation and engagement **Final 30 seconds:** Lasting impression from conclusion

Marking decision: Overall judgment influenced by both beginning and end

## **How Markers Remember Strong Endings**

After reading dozens of essays in a session, markers often remember specific pieces by their conclusions. A powerful ending doesn't just wrap up your ideas—it creates an emotional response that makes your work memorable.



**Emotional Impact** 

Feelings create lasting memories



Insight Surprise

New perspectives stand out



**Artistic Beauty** 

Beautiful language lingers

## The Difference Between Weak and Powerful Closers

## **IP** Weak Conclusion Example

"In conclusion, recycling is important. We should all recycle more. This is why recycling matters. The

Problems: Repetitive, predictable, adds nothing new, abrupt ending

## **le** Powerful Conclusion Example

"Every plastic bottle you toss in the recycling bin today becomes tomorrow's school playground equipment, park bench, or even someone's new jumper. The choice isn't just about rubbish—it's about the world you're building for your future self."

Strengths: Vivid imagery, personal connection, future vision, emotional appeal

## **Common Ending Mistakes That Lose Marks**

## **▲** Mistake 1: The Boring Summary

Simply repeating your main points without adding insight or emotion.

## ▲ Mistake 2: The Abrupt Stop

Ending suddenly without proper closure, leaving readers unsatisfied.

## ▲ Mistake 3: The New Topic Introduction

Bringing up completely new ideas that should have been in the body paragraphs.

## ▲ Mistake 4: The Tone Shift

Changing voice or style dramatically from the rest of the piece.

## The Lasting Impact Principle

The best conclusions don't just end your writing—they begin the reader's thinking. They plant seeds of ideas that continue growing in the marker's mind even after they've moved on to the next essay.

### ✓ Lasting Impact Checklist

- ✓ Does your conclusion add something new to the conversation?
- ✓ Will readers think about your ideas after finishing?
- ✓ Does it connect to something bigger than just your topic?
- √ Would you remember this ending if you read it?
- ✓ Does it feel like a natural, satisfying closure?



## Section 2: Understanding Different Writing Types

Different types of writing need different types of conclusions. What works brilliantly for a story might feel completely wrong in a persuasive essay. Understanding these differences is crucial for NAPLAN success.

## **Narrative Conclusions vs Persuasive Conclusions**

## Narrative Conclusions

- Resolve character conflicts
- Show character growth
- Satisfy emotional journey
- · Create lasting mood
- Tie up story threads
- Leave reader feeling complete

"Sarah smiled as she looked at her painting. It wasn't perfect, but it was hers—just like the courage she'd found to try new things."

## Persuasive Conclusions

- · Reinforce main argument
- Call readers to action
- Show consequences
- Appeal to values
- Create urgency
- Inspire change

"The choice is ours: continue scrolling past problems, or scroll up our sleeves and become the solution our community needs."

## **Expository Writing Endings**

Expository writing explains or informs. These conclusions should synthesise information and help readers understand the broader significance of what they've learned.

## **Expository Conclusion Purposes:**

Synthesis: Weave together the main points into new understanding

Broader context: Connect information to wider significance

Future implications: Suggest what this knowledge means going forward

Practical application: Show how readers can use this information

"Understanding how bees communicate through their waggle dance reveals nature's extraordinary intelligence. As scientists continue studying these tiny dancers, we're discovering that the natural world holds solutions to problems we haven't even realised we have yet."

## Creative Writing Finales

Creative pieces allow for the most artistic and experimental conclusions. These can be poetic, surprising, or emotionally powerful—but they must still feel connected to your piece.

### **Poetic Endings**

Beautiful language that lingers in the mind

## **Surprise Twists**

Unexpected revelations that reframe everything

#### **Emotional Crescendos**

Building to powerful feeling peaks

## **Matching Conclusions to Writing Purpose**

## **Quick Purpose Check:**

Before choosing your conclusion technique, ask yourself:

- What was my main purpose in writing this piece?
- How do I want my reader to feel when they finish?
- What's the most important thing for them to remember?
- Does my conclusion support my overall purpose?

## **Year Level Expectations (Y5, Y6, Y7 Progression)**

## YEAR 5 Foundation Level

- Clear, simple conclusions that wrap up the main idea
- Basic emotional resolution in narratives
- Simple calls to action in persuasive writing
- Appropriate length (2-4 sentences typically)
- Consistent tone with the rest of the piece

## YEAR 6 Developing Level

- More sophisticated language and sentence structure
- Beginning to add insight beyond simple summary
- Can handle more complex emotional resolutions
- · Shows understanding of audience impact
- Experiments with different conclusion techniques

## YEAR 7 Advanced Level

- Sophisticated synthesis of ideas and themes
- Uses advanced techniques like metaphor and symbolism
- Creates lasting impact and memorable impressions
- · Shows mature understanding of broader implications
- Demonstrates mastery of voice and style consistency



## Section 3: The 25 Powerful Closing Techniques

## **■ Category A: Narrative Story Endings (Techniques 1-5)**

Perfect for creative writing and storytelling pieces

## Technique 1: The Full Circle Closer

Return to an image, scene, or idea from your opening to create satisfying symmetry.

### **How It Works:**

This technique creates a sense of completion by referencing something from your beginning. It shows that your character or situation has come "full circle"—but with important growth or change.

#### **Example:**

Opening: "The rusty old bicycle sat forgotten in the garage corner, its paint peeling and tyres flat."

Full Circle Conclusion: "As Emma wheeled her newly restored bicycle into the garage, she smiled at the empty corner where it used to hide. Some things, she thought, just needed someone to believe in them

## When to Use This Technique:

- · When your story shows character growth or change
- If you have a strong visual image or setting from the beginning
- For stories about transformation or learning
- · When you want to show "before and after" contrast

### Step-by-Step Guide:

- 1. Identify your opening element: What specific image, object, or situation did you use to start?
- 2. Consider the change: How has your character or situation evolved?
- 3. Revisit with difference: Return to that element but show how it's different now
- 4. Add insight: Include what this change means to your character

#### YEAR 5

"The playground looked the same, but now Maria knew she could make friends anywhere."

#### YEAR 6

"The mountain still towered above the village, but Jake no longer saw an impossible barrier—he saw his next adventure."

#### YEAR 7

"The mirror reflected the same face, but behind her eyes lived a courage that hadn't existed that morning when this all began."

## Technique 2: The Lesson Learned Ending

Show character growth through a realisation or new understanding, without being preachy.

This technique reveals what your character has discovered about themselves, others, or life. The key is making the lesson feel natural and earned through the story's events.

## **Example:**

"Tom realised that being the fastest runner in Year 6 meant nothing if you left your teammates behind. True victory, he understood now, was crossing the finish line together."

## **Avoiding Heavy-Handed Messaging:**

## **Too Obvious:**

"The moral of the story is that sharing is important and we should always share with others."

## **Just Right:**

"Watching his sister's face light up when he offered half his chocolate bar, Alex understood why his mum always said the best treats were the ones you shared."

## **Age-Appropriate Wisdom Sharing:**

- Year 5: Simple realisations about friendship, kindness, trying new things
- Year 6: Understanding about teamwork, perseverance, accepting differences
- Year 7: Insights about identity, responsibility, complex relationships

Provide satisfying closure to your character's emotional journey while connecting with readers' feelings.

This technique focuses on resolving the feelings and emotions that drove your story. It's not just about what happened, but how your character feels about what happened.

## **Happy Resolution:**

"The warm feeling in Lily's chest had nothing to do with the sunshine streaming through her bedroom window. For the first time since moving cities, she felt truly at home."

### **Bittersweet Resolution:**

"Sam touched the empty dog collar in his pocket, missing Rex terribly. But he also felt proud—he'd given his best friend the happiest life possible."

#### **Different Emotional Tones:**

Relief: After overcoming a challenge or fear

Joy: Celebrating success or reunion

Peace: Finding acceptance or understanding

Pride: Recognising personal growth

**Hope:** Looking forward to positive change **Gratitude:** Appreciating what you have

## **Y** Technique 4: The Hopeful Future

Look forward optimistically, suggesting positive change or new possibilities ahead.

This technique extends your story beyond its ending, hinting at the good things to come. It leaves readers feeling uplifted and optimistic.

### **Example:**

"As Mia packed her art supplies for the new term, she smiled thinking about all the blank canvases waiting for her. This year would be different—this year, she wouldn't be afraid to let her creativity shine."

## **Age-Appropriate Future Visions:**

Year 5: Starting new schools, making new friends, trying new activities

Year 6: Taking on leadership roles, pursuing passions, helping others

Year 7: Long-term goals, making a difference, personal development

## **Avoiding Cliché Optimism:**

Make your hopeful future specific and connected to your story. Instead of "everything will be perfect," show what particular positive changes are likely based on what your character has learned or achieved.

## Technique 5: The Surprise Twist

Reveal something unexpected that reframes the entire story—but make sure it's logical and well-prepared.

A good twist surprises readers while making them think, "Of course! That makes perfect sense!" The clues should be there when readers look back.

## **Example:**

"As Jamie closed the diary, she noticed her grandmother's handwriting looked strangely familiar. Walking to the mirror, she picked up her own pen and wrote her name—the exact same loops and curves. Some gifts, it seemed, passed through generations."

## Clues and Foreshadowing:

- · Plant subtle hints throughout your story
- Use details that gain new meaning after the reveal
- Make characters behave in ways that make sense after the twist
- Ensure the surprise feels earned, not random

## **Appropriate Surprises for Different Ages:**



Simple reveals about character relationships or hidden talents

Character identity surprises or unexpected connections

## YEAR 7

Complex revelations that reframe the entire narrative

## Category B: Persuasive Essay Conclusions (Techniques 6-10)

## Technique 6: The Call to Action

Motivate readers to take specific, achievable steps related to your argument.

Instead of just convincing readers you're right, tell them exactly what they can do about it. Make your suggestions realistic and age-appropriate.

## **Example:**

"Start small: choose one day this week to walk or ride to school instead of driving. Challenge your friends to do the same. Every step towards cleaner air begins with a single footstep."

### Age-Appropriate Activism:

- Year 5: Classroom actions, family changes, simple community involvement
- Year 6: School initiatives, local community projects, peer influence
- Year 7: Wider community engagement, leadership roles, long-term commitment

## Clear, Achievable Steps:

- √ Be specific about what to do
- √ Make it something students can actually accomplish
- √ Suggest when or how often to do it
- √ Connect the action to the bigger goal
- √ Use inspiring but realistic language

## **Technique 7: The Vision of Consequences**

Paint vivid pictures of what will happen if readers do or don't follow your argument.

Help readers visualise the future results of their choices. Show both positive outcomes (if they act) and negative consequences (if they don't).

## **Positive Vision:**

"Imagine walking into a school playground where every child feels included, where differences are celebrated. and where kindness is the norm, not the exception."

## **Warning Vision:**

"If we continue ignoring cyberbullying, we risk creating a generation that fears connecting with others, where social media becomes a weapon instead of a bridge."

## **Realistic Projections:**

- · Base consequences on logical cause and effect
- Use age-appropriate scenarios students can relate to

- Balance hope with urgency
- · Make consequences feel real, not exaggerated

## Technique 8: The Personal Connection

Help readers see how your argument directly relates to their own lives and experiences.

Make your argument personal by showing readers why they should care. Connect to universal experiences while avoiding assumptions about individual circumstances.

### **Example:**

"Think about the person who makes you laugh the hardest, or the friend who listens when you need to talk. Now imagine if they lived on the other side of the world—wouldn't you want to understand their culture, their challenges, their dreams? Global awareness isn't about distant places; it's about connecting with the people who could become our closest friends."

## **Universal Human Experiences:**

- · Wanting to belong and be accepted
- Caring about family and friends
- · Hoping for a positive future
- Needing safety and security
- · Desiring fairness and justice
- · Wanting to make a difference

## **Avoiding Overpersonalisation:**

Don't make assumptions about readers' specific situations. Instead of "Your parents probably..." try "Many families..." or "Students often experience..."

## ▲ Technique 9: The Challenge Issued

Directly challenge readers to think differently, act courageously, or prove something to themselves.

This technique appeals to readers' sense of capability and growth. It suggests they have the power to make a difference or overcome obstacles.

## **Example:**

"I challenge you to spend one lunch break this week talking to someone you've never spoken to before. You might discover that the quiet kid in your class writes amazing poetry, or that the girl who seems unfriendly is actually just shy. Are you brave enough to find out who's been invisible to you?"

## **Types of Challenges:**

Intellectual: "Can you think of three solutions no one else has considered?"

Social: "Will you be the one to stand up when others stay silent?"

Personal: "What would you attempt if you knew you couldn't fail?"

Creative: "How would you solve this problem using only things in your bedroom?"

## **Age-Appropriate Challenges:**

YEAR 5

Personal behaviour changes, trying new things, helping classmates

YEAR 6

Leadership opportunities, school initiatives, community involvement

YEAR 7

Complex problem-solving, advocacy, long-term commitments

## 99 Technique 10: The Memorable Quote Echo

Return to a powerful quotation from your introduction or use a new quote that reinforces your argument with authority.

Quotes from experts, historical figures, or literature can add weight and memorability to your conclusion. They work best when they perfectly capture your main message.

### **Example:**

"As Maya Angelou wisely said, 'When we know better, we do better.' Now that we understand the impact of food waste on our environment, we have no excuse not to act. The question isn't whether we can afford to change our habits—it's whether we can afford not to."

## **Quote Selection Criteria:**

- · Choose quotes that directly support your argument
- · Use sources your audience will respect
- Keep quotes short and punchy
- Make sure you understand the full context
- · Connect the quote clearly to your point

### **Integration Techniques:**

## **Echo Opening:**

Return to a quote you used in your introduction, but add new insight about why it matters.

## **New Authority:**

Introduce a fresh quote that reinforces your conclusion with expert credibility.

## 📃 Category C: Expository Writing Endings (Techniques 11-15)

Informative conclusions that synthesise and illuminate

## **†** Technique 11: The Summary Synthesis

Weave together your main points to create new understanding rather than just repeating what you've

This technique goes beyond simple summary by showing how your main points connect to form a bigger picture or deeper insight.

## **Example:**

"The three adaptations we've explored—the polar bear's thick fur, the camel's water storage, and the penguin's huddling behaviour—reveal nature's most important lesson: survival isn't about being the strongest or fastest, but about finding creative solutions to life's challenges. In our rapidly changing world, perhaps we humans have more to learn from these remarkable creatures than we ever imagined."

## **Creating New Understanding:**

- · Look for patterns across your main points
- Identify the bigger principle or theme
- Show how individual facts connect
- Draw conclusions that weren't obvious from single points

### **Avoiding Simple Repetition:**

## **Simple Repetition:**

"In conclusion, volcanoes are formed by tectonic plates, they erupt lava, and they can be dangerous."

## Synthesis:

"From their underground formation to their explosive power, volcanoes demonstrate Earth's incredible ability

to constantly reshape itself, reminding us that our planet is very much alive."

## **Technique 12: The Broader Implications**

Connect your specific topic to wider contexts, showing its global or societal significance.

This technique helps readers understand why your topic matters beyond the immediate facts, connecting local or specific information to global or universal significance.

### **Example:**

"Understanding how ancient civilisations used mathematics to build pyramids and predict eclipses isn't just about the past—it reveals how human curiosity and problem-solving have always driven progress. Today's space missions and computer technology are built on the same foundation of mathematical thinking that guided our ancestors thousands of years ago."

## **Connecting to Wider Contexts:**

Global significance: How does this affect people worldwide?

Future implications: What might this mean for coming generations?

Cross-cultural relevance: How do different societies approach this?

**Historical continuity:** How does this connect past to present? **Universal principles:** What bigger truths does this reveal?

## **Intellectual Curiosity:**

A strong broader implications conclusion should make readers think:

- √ "I never thought about it that way before"
- √ "This is more important than I realised"
- √ "I wonder how this connects to other things I know"
- √ "This makes me want to learn more"

## 🔽 Technique 13: The Expert Perspective

Use professional or academic viewpoints to lend authority to your conclusion and validate your research.

By including expert opinions or research findings, you show that your conclusions are supported by people who have dedicated their careers to understanding your topic.

## **Example:**

"Dr Sarah Chen, a marine biologist who has studied coral reefs for over twenty years, recently stated that 'the resilience of coral ecosystems continues to surprise us—they're teaching us new lessons about recovery and adaptation every day.' Her research confirms what we've discovered: even in the face of climate change, nature has remarkable powers of regeneration when given the chance."

## **Authority Lending Conclusion:**

- Choose experts relevant to your specific topic
- Use current research and recent findings
- · Explain why this expert's opinion matters
- Connect their expertise to your main points
- Show how expert views support your conclusions

## **Credible Source Integration:**

When using expert perspectives, always explain their credentials briefly and show how their expertise specifically relates to your topic. This builds trust with your readers.

## Technique 14: The Question Generator

Provoke further inquiry by raising thoughtful questions that extend beyond your current research.

Instead of providing all the answers, this technique acknowledges that your research opens doors to new questions worth exploring.

## **Example:**

"Our exploration of how different animals communicate has revealed the remarkable sophistication of nonhuman languages. But this knowledge raises fascinating questions: If dolphins have names for each other, do they also have different accents in different oceans? Could elephants be telling stories when they gather in groups? As technology advances, what other conversations might we discover happening all around us?"

### **Intellectual Curiosity Sparking:**

- · Build on what you've already established
- · Ask questions that don't have obvious answers
- · Connect to broader fields of study
- · Suggest areas for future research
- · Make readers want to investigate further

### Follow-up Research Suggestions:

### **Immediate Questions:**

Questions readers could explore right now with available resources

### **Future Possibilities:**

Questions that might be answered as technology and knowledge advance

## 💢 Technique 15: The Practical Application

Show how readers can use this knowledge in their everyday lives or future learning.

This technique demonstrates the value of your information by showing concrete ways it can be applied, making abstract knowledge feel useful and relevant.

## **Example:**

"Understanding how optical illusions work doesn't just satisfy curiosity—it has real applications in your daily life. When you're riding in a car and distant objects seem to move slowly while nearby ones flash past, you're experiencing the same principle that helps pilots land planes safely. Next time you watch a magic show or see an advertisement that seems too good to be true, you'll have the knowledge to question what your eyes are telling you."

## **Real-World Usage Examples:**

Personal skills: How this knowledge improves daily decision-making

Academic connections: How it links to other school subjects Career relevance: Jobs or fields that use this information Social awareness: How it helps understand the world better Problem-solving: Practical situations where this knowledge helps

## **Knowledge Transfer:**

## Effective practical applications help readers:

- √ See immediate relevance to their lives
- √ Connect learning to real situations
- √ Understand why the knowledge matters
- √ Feel confident using what they've learned
- √ Recognise applications in multiple contexts

## Category D: Creative Mixed Techniques (Techniques 16-20)

## **Technique 16: The Metaphor Conclusion**

Use powerful comparative imagery to illustrate abstract concepts and create memorable visual

Metaphors help readers understand complex ideas by comparing them to familiar experiences. A well-chosen metaphor can make your conclusion unforgettable.

#### **Example:**

"Learning a new language is like building a bridge between two worlds. Each vocabulary word is a plank, each grammar rule a support beam. Some days the construction feels impossible, but when you finally speak your first complete sentence to a native speaker and watch their face light up with understanding, you realise you haven't just built a bridge—you've created a pathway to friendship."

### **Powerful Comparative Imagery:**

Natural metaphors: Growth, weather, landscapes, animals

Building metaphors: Construction, foundations, bridges, doorways

Journey metaphors: Paths, destinations, exploration, mapping Musical metaphors: Harmony, rhythm, orchestras, instruments

Sports metaphors: Teamwork, training, goals, victories

## **Age-Appropriate Complexity:**

## YEAR 5

Simple, concrete comparisons: "Friendship is like a garden that grows stronger with care."

## YEAR 6

Extended metaphors: "Reading opens doors, but writing gives you the keys to build new rooms in your imagination."

## YEAR 7

Complex, layered comparisons: "Democracy is a delicate ecosystem where every citizen's voice is both a unique species and part of the collective biodiversity that keeps society thriving."

## Technique 17: The Circular Image

Create artistic symmetry by returning to a visual or sensory image from earlier in your piece, but with new

This technique creates a sense of completion and artistic satisfaction by bringing your piece full circle, but the returning image carries new depth or understanding.

## **Example:**

Opening image: "The empty classroom stood silent, waiting."

Circular conclusion: "The classroom fell silent again as the last student left, but now it was a satisfied silence—the quiet of a space that had done its job well, filled with invisible echoes of laughter, discovery, and growth. Tomorrow, it would wait again, but tonight, it could rest in the knowledge that learning had happened within its walls."

### Visual or Sensory Callbacks:

Visual images: Light/shadow, colours, shapes, movement

Sounds: Music, voices, silence, echoes

Textures: Rough/smooth, warm/cool, soft/hard

Smells and tastes: Familiar scents, memory triggers

Movement: Flowing, stillness, rhythm, pace

## **Poetic Conclusion Styles:**

When using circular images, focus on how the meaning has deepened or changed. The same image should feel familiar yet transformed by the journey your reader has taken through your piece.

## Technique 18: The Wisdom Statement

Share a universal truth or life lesson that emerges from your topic, offering readers timeless insight.

This technique distils your topic into broader wisdom that applies beyond the immediate subject, giving readers something valuable to carry forward.

## **Example:**

"The ancient art of origami teaches us that the most beautiful creations often begin with the simplest materials. A single sheet of paper, through patience and careful folding, becomes a crane, a flower, or a star. Perhaps this is life's greatest lesson: transformation isn't about having perfect materials—it's about the care and intention we bring to the process of becoming."

## Life Lesson Articulation:

- · Connect specific examples to universal principles
- · Use language that feels natural, not preachy
- Make wisdom relevant to your audience's experiences
- Ensure the lesson emerges logically from your content
- Balance insight with accessibility

## **Age-Appropriate Depth:**

## YEAR 5

Simple truths about kindness, effort, and growth

## YEAR 6

Insights about perseverance, understanding others, and finding purpose

## YEAR 7

Complex wisdom about identity, responsibility, and making a difference

## **Timeless Wisdom:**

## Effective wisdom statements:

- ✓ Apply across different situations and contexts
- √ Feel true and authentic, not forced
- √ Offer guidance without being prescriptive
- √ Connect to human experiences and emotions
- ✓ Provide comfort or inspiration

## Technique 19: The Rhetorical Flourish

Use sophisticated language techniques and rhetorical devices to create stylistic excellence and demonstrate mastery.

This technique showcases advanced writing skills through careful use of rhetorical devices, creating conclusions that demonstrate sophisticated command of language.

### **Example with Multiple Devices:**

"Who among us has not gazed at the stars and wondered? Who has not felt small beneath that vast canvas of possibility? (Rhetorical questions) Yet in that smallness lies our greatest strength: the courage to dream beyond our earthly bounds, to reach for distant worlds with minds capable of infinite imagination. (Alliteration, metaphor) We are, each of us, both cosmic dust and starlight—ancient materials forged in stellar fires, now gifted with consciousness enough to comprehend our own magnificent origins. (Parallel structure, metaphor)"

## **Rhetorical Devices Usage:**

Rhetorical questions: Engage readers in contemplation

Alliteration: Create musical quality and emphasis

Parallel structure: Build rhythm and power

Repetition: Reinforce key ideas memorably

Metaphor and simile: Create vivid comparisons

Personification: Bring abstract concepts to life

## **Voice Strength Demonstration:**

Use rhetorical flourishes sparingly and purposefully. The goal is to enhance your message, not overshadow it with fancy language. Every device should serve your meaning.

## Technique 20: The Emotional Crescendo

Build to an emotional peak that provides cathartic release and satisfying resolution to the reader's emotional journey.

Like a powerful piece of music that builds to a climactic moment, this technique gradually increases emotional intensity before providing satisfying resolution.

## **Example:**

"At first, the refugees had nothing but hope. Then came the months of uncertainty, the daily struggle for basic necessities, the constant worry about family left behind. But gradually—so gradually they almost didn't notice—hope began to rebuild itself. A smile from a volunteer. A word of encouragement from a teacher. A new friend who understood their story. And finally, on a sunny Tuesday morning, when ten-year-old Amira stood before her new classmates and introduced herself in confident English, every person in that room witnessed something miraculous: the unbreakable power of human resilience. In that moment, we all remembered why hope is the most precious thing we can offer each other."

### **Building to Emotional Peak:**

Start with moderate emotion: Establish the emotional foundation

Add layers gradually: Increase intensity through specific details

Reach the crescendo: Hit the emotional high point

Provide resolution: Offer satisfying emotional closure

## Feeling Intensity Management:

## **Building Techniques:**

- Increasing sentence length and complexity
- More vivid and powerful vocabulary
- Accelerating pace or rhythm
- Accumulating examples or images

## **Resolution Methods:**

- Slowing pace and simplifying language
- Moving to quieter, reflective tone
- Providing closure or peace
- Ending on hope or understanding

## **Reader Emotional Journey:**

Successful emotional crescendos:

- √ Feel natural and earned, not manipulative
- ✓ Match the overall tone and content of the piece
- ✓ Provide appropriate cathartic release
- √ Leave readers feeling moved but satisfied
- √ Create lasting emotional memory of the piece



# Category E: Advanced Multi-Purpose Techniques (Techniques 21-

Sophisticated approaches for complex ideas and mature writing



## Technique 21: The Time Shift Conclusion

Connect past, present, and future perspectives to show how your topic fits into the broader flow of time.

This sophisticated technique demonstrates understanding of how ideas, events, or issues connect across time periods, showing temporal context and significance.

#### **Example:**

"A century ago, the Wright brothers' twelve-second flight seemed impossible to most observers. Fifty years later, humans walked on the moon. Today, private companies launch tourists into space as easily as airlines carry passengers across oceans. Looking ahead, our children may commute between planets as routinely as we travel between cities. The impossible, it seems, is simply tomorrow's routine-waiting patiently for human imagination to catch up with human determination."

## **Temporal Perspective Shifts:**

Historical progression: Show how ideas or practices have evolved

Present significance: Explain current relevance of historical patterns

Future implications: Project logical extensions into tomorrow

Cyclical patterns: Identify recurring themes across time

Generational impact: Consider effects on different age groups

### Time-Based Insights:

### **Past Lessons**

What history teaches us about this topic

## **Present Reality**

How we understand and experience it now

### **Future Possibilities**

Where current trends might lead us

## **△Tople 1** Technique 22: The Contrasting Paradox

Present seemingly contradictory truths that coexist, demonstrating sophisticated understanding of

This advanced technique acknowledges that many important truths contain apparent contradictions, showing intellectual maturity and nuanced thinking.

## **Example:**

"Social media has simultaneously connected us more deeply and isolated us more completely than any generation before us. We know more about distant strangers' daily lives than our next-door neighbours' deepest thoughts. We can organise global movements in minutes but struggle to maintain conversations lasting hours. Perhaps this is the defining paradox of our time: technology has given us unprecedented power to communicate, yet we're still learning how to truly connect."

### **Seemingly Contradictory Truths:**

- Strength can come from vulnerability
- · Progress often requires looking backward
- Individual success depends on community support
- · Competition can foster cooperation
- Simple solutions often require complex understanding
- · Freedom requires discipline and boundaries

### **Sophisticated Thinking Demonstration:**

When using paradox, explain why both seemingly opposite things can be true. Help readers understand that complexity often contains multiple valid perspectives that can coexist.

#### **Nuanced Understanding:**

## Effective paradox conclusions:

- ✓ Acknowledge real complexity in the topic
- ✓ Avoid oversimplifying difficult issues
- √ Show respect for multiple perspectives
- ✓ Demonstrate mature thinking abilities
- √ Help readers embrace complexity rather than fear it

## Technique 23: The Universal Connection

Emphasise shared human experiences and cross-cultural relevance, showing how your topic connects all people.

This technique highlights what unites humanity rather than what divides us, showing how your specific topic relates to universal human experiences and values.

## **Example:**

"Whether it's a mother's lullaby in Tokyo, a grandmother's story in Lagos, or a father's advice in Santiago, every culture on Earth has developed ways to pass wisdom to the next generation. The languages may differ, the customs may vary, but the love behind these traditions remains constant. In studying how different societies educate their children, we discover that learning isn't just about acquiring knowledge—it's about preserving the precious thread that connects past to future, ensuring that human wisdom survives and grows across generations."

## **Human Experience Commonality:**

Basic needs: Food, shelter, safety, belonging

Emotional experiences: Love, fear, joy, sorrow, hope
Life stages: Birth, growth, learning, aging, legacy
Social bonds: Family, friendship, community, identity

Aspirations: Meaning, purpose, contribution, understanding

Challenges: Conflict, change, loss, uncertainty

## **Cross-Cultural Relevance:**

## **Shared Values:**

Identify principles that transcend cultural boundaries

## **Common Challenges:**

Highlight problems faced by all human societies

## **Inclusive Conclusions:**

When emphasising universal connections, be careful not to erase important cultural differences. Celebrate

diversity while highlighting shared humanity.



## Technique 24: The Innovation Inspiration

Encourage creative thinking and problem-solving by suggesting future possibilities and innovative

This technique motivates readers to think beyond current limitations and imagine new solutions, positioning them as potential innovators and problem-solvers.

### **Example:**

"Today's smartphones contain more computing power than the computers that guided astronauts to the moon. What if we applied that same innovative thinking to classroom learning? Imagine virtual reality field trips to ancient Rome, Al tutors that adapt to each student's learning style, or collaborative projects connecting classrooms across continents. The technology exists—we just need young minds brave enough to reimagine what education could become. Perhaps the next great breakthrough in learning will come not from adults stuck in old patterns, but from students who dare to ask, 'What if school could be completely different?"

## **Future Possibilities Suggestion:**

- · Build on current trends and technologies
- Combine existing ideas in new ways
- Address unmet needs or problems
- Challenge assumptions about what's possible
- Encourage interdisciplinary thinking
- Invite readers to contribute their own ideas

## **Creative Thinking Encouragement:**

## **Question Everything**

Challenge existing methods and assumptions

### **Combine Ideas**

Mix concepts from different fields

### **Start Small**

Begin with achievable innovations

## **Problem-Solving Inspiration:**

Innovation-inspiring conclusions:

- √ Make innovation feel accessible and exciting
- √ Show how small ideas can lead to big changes
- √ Encourage experimentation and risk-taking
- √ Connect innovation to solving real problems
- ✓ Position readers as potential changemakers

## Technique 25: The Legacy Conclusion

Consider the long-term impact and generational significance of your topic, emphasising lasting change and enduring value.

This powerful technique examines how your topic will continue to matter in the future, what kind of legacy current actions will create, and how today's decisions shape tomorrow's world.

### **Example:**

"Every tree planted today will provide shade for children not yet born. Every plastic bottle recycled now prevents pollution that could harm oceans for decades. Every act of environmental stewardship becomes part of a legacy we leave for future generations. When those children grow up and breathe clean air, drink pure water, and marvel at thriving wildlife, they may never know the names of those who made these gifts

possible. But they will live in the world we create through our choices today. The question isn't whether individual actions matter-it's what kind of world we want our legacy to build."

## **Long-Term Impact Consideration:**

Environmental legacy: How actions affect the planet's future

Social legacy: Changes to how people treat each other

Educational legacy: Knowledge and skills passed forward

Cultural legacy: Values and traditions preserved or changed

Technological legacy: Innovations that shape future possibilities

Personal legacy: Character and influence on others

## **Generational Significance:**

### **Immediate Impact:**

Changes that happen in the short term

## **Lasting Change:**

Effects that continue for generations

### **Historical Importance:**

Legacy conclusions work best when they help readers see themselves as part of a larger historical narrative, where their actions today become part of tomorrow's story.

## **Enduring Value Creation:**

Powerful legacy conclusions:

- √ Connect present actions to future consequences
- √ Help readers feel part of something bigger
- ✓ Inspire responsibility for future generations
- √ Show how individual choices create collective impact
- ✓ End with hope and purpose rather than burden

## Section 4: Matching Techniques to Year Levels

While any technique can be adapted for different year levels, some work better than others depending on students' developmental stage, vocabulary, and life experience. Here's your guide to choosing the right techniques for maximum impact.



## **YEAR 5** Foundation Level (Ages 10-11)

## **Recommended Primary Techniques:**

### **Easiest to Master:**

- Technique 2: Lesson Learned Ending
- Technique 3: Emotional Resolution
- Technique 4: Hopeful Future
- Technique 6: Call to Action (simple)
- Technique 18: Wisdom Statement (basic)

### With Support:

- Technique 1: Full Circle Closer
- Technique 8: Personal Connection
- Technique 11: Summary Synthesis
- Technique 16: Metaphor Conclusion (simple)
- Technique 23: Universal Connection

## **Complexity Guidelines:**

Sentence length: 10-15 words per sentence typically

Vocabulary: Use familiar words; explain any complex terms

Concepts: Focus on concrete ideas and immediate experiences

Length: 2-4 sentences for most conclusions

Emotions: Clear, recognisable feelings rather than complex emotional states

### Year 5 Example - Lesson Learned:

"Tom learned that being brave doesn't mean you're not scared—it means you do the right thing even when you're frightened. Standing up to the bullies was the hardest thing he'd ever done, but it was also the most important."

## **YEAR 6** Developing Level (Ages 11-12)

## **Skill Development Focus:**

### **Building on Year 5:**

- · More sophisticated vocabulary
- Longer, more complex sentences
- Beginning to use rhetorical devices
- Multiple perspective consideration
- · Abstract concept exploration

### **New Techniques to Try:**

- Technique 7: Vision of Consequences
- Technique 9: Challenge Issued
- Technique 12: Broader Implications
- Technique 17: Circular Image
- Technique 20: Emotional Crescendo

## **Expectations:**

Analysis depth: Beginning to explain not just what but why

Audience awareness: Understanding different readers may respond differently

Structure: More sophisticated organisation of ideas

Voice: Developing personal writing style

Connection: Linking ideas to broader contexts

## Year 6 Example - Challenge Issued:

"Next time you see someone sitting alone at lunch, ask yourself: could I be the person who changes their day? Sometimes the smallest act of kindness creates the biggest difference. Will you be brave enough to find out?"

## YEAR 7

## Advanced Level (Ages 12-13)

## **Sophistication and Advanced Applications:**

## **Advanced Techniques:**

- Technique 5: Surprise Twist
- Technique 13: Expert Perspective
- Technique 19: Rhetorical Flourish
- Technique 21: Time Shift Conclusion
- Technique 22: Contrasting Paradox

## **Mastery Expectations:**

- Complex sentence structures
- Sophisticated vocabulary choices
- Multiple rhetorical devices
- Nuanced understanding
- Original insights and perspectives

## **Assessment Criteria Alignment:**

Ideas and development: Sophisticated, original thinking with depth

Structure and organisation: Complex, purposeful arrangement Vocabulary and language use: Precise, varied, sophisticated

Voice and audience: Consistent, appropriate, engaging

Conventions: Error-free with advanced punctuation and grammar

## **Year 7 Example - Contrasting Paradox:**

"In our quest to stay constantly connected through technology, we risk becoming increasingly disconnected from ourselves. The very tools designed to bring us together can drive us apart,

creating a generation that knows how to communicate but struggles to truly connect. Perhaps the greatest challenge of our digital age isn't learning to use new technology—it's remembering what it means to be authentically human in an artificial world."

## **Progressive Skill Building Across Years**

## **Scaffolding Success:**

Year 5: Master basic techniques with simple, clear language

Year 6: Add complexity and begin experimenting with style

Year 7: Demonstrate sophistication and original thinking

#### **Foundation Skills**

- Clear main ideas
- Simple but complete thoughts
- Appropriate conclusion length
- Consistent tone

## **Developing Skills**

- · Enhanced vocabulary
- · Varied sentence structure
- Beginning sophistication
- · Reader awareness

#### **Advanced Skills**

- · Complex ideas synthesis
- Rhetorical sophistication
- Original insights
- · Masterful technique use

## Section 5: Sample Conclusions Gallery

Here are 25 exemplar conclusions demonstrating each technique across different writing types and year levels. Study these examples to see how each technique works in practice.



## **Full Circle Closer**

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