Unit 2: Research Paper Conclusion/Closing Paragraph Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What to put in the closing paragraph:

It must restate the thesis in different words without changing the meaning.

It must give a sense of completion, not just stop.

It may point out the significance or implications of your thesis.

It may summarize the topic sentence pattern—unless you put this in the opening paragraph.

It may offer a final specific fact, detail, example, statistic, quotation, or contrast.

What *not* to put in the closing paragraph:

It does not need a topic sentence.

It should not list the topic sentences word for word.

It should not tell about specific details or examples that you discussed in the paragraphs of development.

Beware of hedging or changing your mind.

So, think about the following:

Restate your thesis, in different words, without changing the meaning.

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Summarize the points you have made in your body paragraphs and explain again how they connect to the thesis.

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Explain why your thesis/topic is significant and important.

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Offer a final, closing thought.

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