

Thesis writing

Conclusions

PURPOSE

The conclusion to any thesis reiterates the overall aims of the research, its results, and the implications of those findings. Its main function, though, is to:

- make generalisations arising from the discussion of the results
- look at the implications of the findings for practice, or for accepted theoretical models/paradigms, and indicate the overall importance of the research to the field
- in some theses, make recommendations for future practice or future research.

In some theses, especially those based on a theoretical approach rather than experimental results, the conclusion is where all the strands explored throughout the text are finally pulled together and a 'thesis' is presented. The final chapter, whether or not it has the title 'Conclusion', functions to conclude the whole discussion.

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