

What is a conclusion?

Conclusion

Noun

1. a reasoned judgment: inference
2. the necessary consequence of two or more propositions taken as premises
3. the last part of something
 - a. result, outcome
 - b. conclusions *plural*: trial of strength or skill —used in the phrase *try conclusions*
 - c. a final summation
 - d. the final decision in a law case

What do I include in my conclusion?

Label the parts of the conclusion.

Although Fitzgerald exposes the powerlessness of women through their relationships with the men in their lives, he fails to empower his only independent female character – instead he depicts her as unattractive and cold. This depiction of men and women proves problematic for 1920s readers, who may already view the new women of the 1920s with trepidation. The new independent woman, Jordan, is not merely a woman with a job who can support herself, but her independence is based on immorality: lying and cheating, as though women could not achieve this independence through just means. The social ladder climber, Myrtle, emotionally abuses her husband and secretly tries to leave him, ultimately destroying her marriage and her husband. Even Daisy, the stereotypical “damsel in distress” publically challenges her husband, devalues her relationship with her daughter, and engages in an affair with another man, subconsciously telling readers that even more traditional women are changing and rejecting past social morals. Each of these women challenge society’s values with their irresponsibility and detachment, destroying the men in their lives. And, whether these negative depictions were intentional or not, Fitzgerald’s fears toward the new 1920s women flowed through his writing, warning others of the immorality and danger of these social changes and unintentionally biasing future generations.

How do I brainstorm for my own conclusion?

1. Restate thesis statement in new structure and words.
2. Summarize argument/paper in 1-2 sentences
3. If you are already focusing on a literary theory, ask yourself: why does this topic/representation matter?
4. If you aren’t focusing on a literary theory, ask yourself: which literary theory applies? What is the author saying intentionally or unintentionally?
5. Think about how the topic impacts readers