



# **Comparison and Contrast**

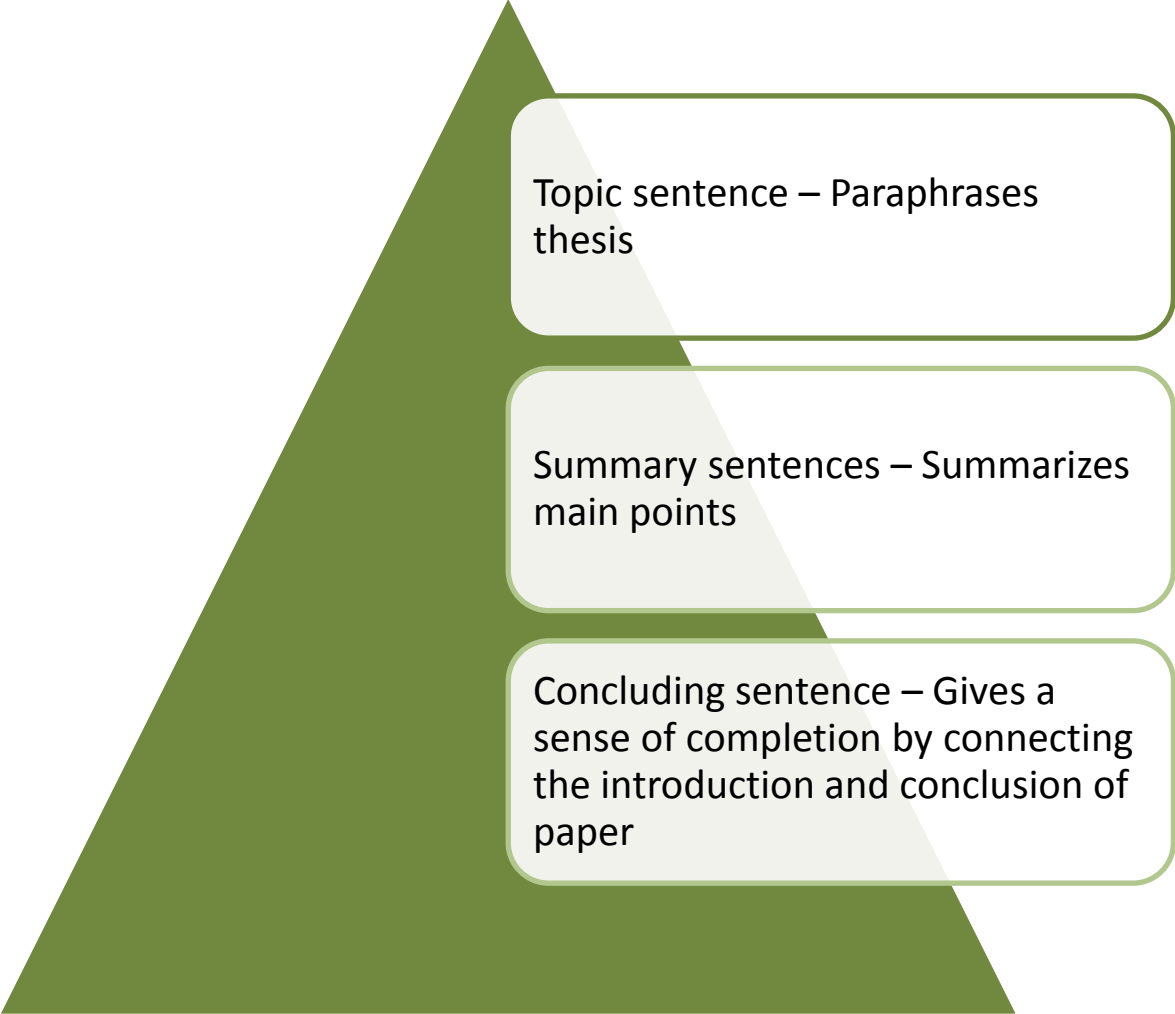
## **Conclusions**

# Purpose

- Paraphrases thesis
- Reinforces an essay's major ideas
- Gives a sense of completion



# An overview

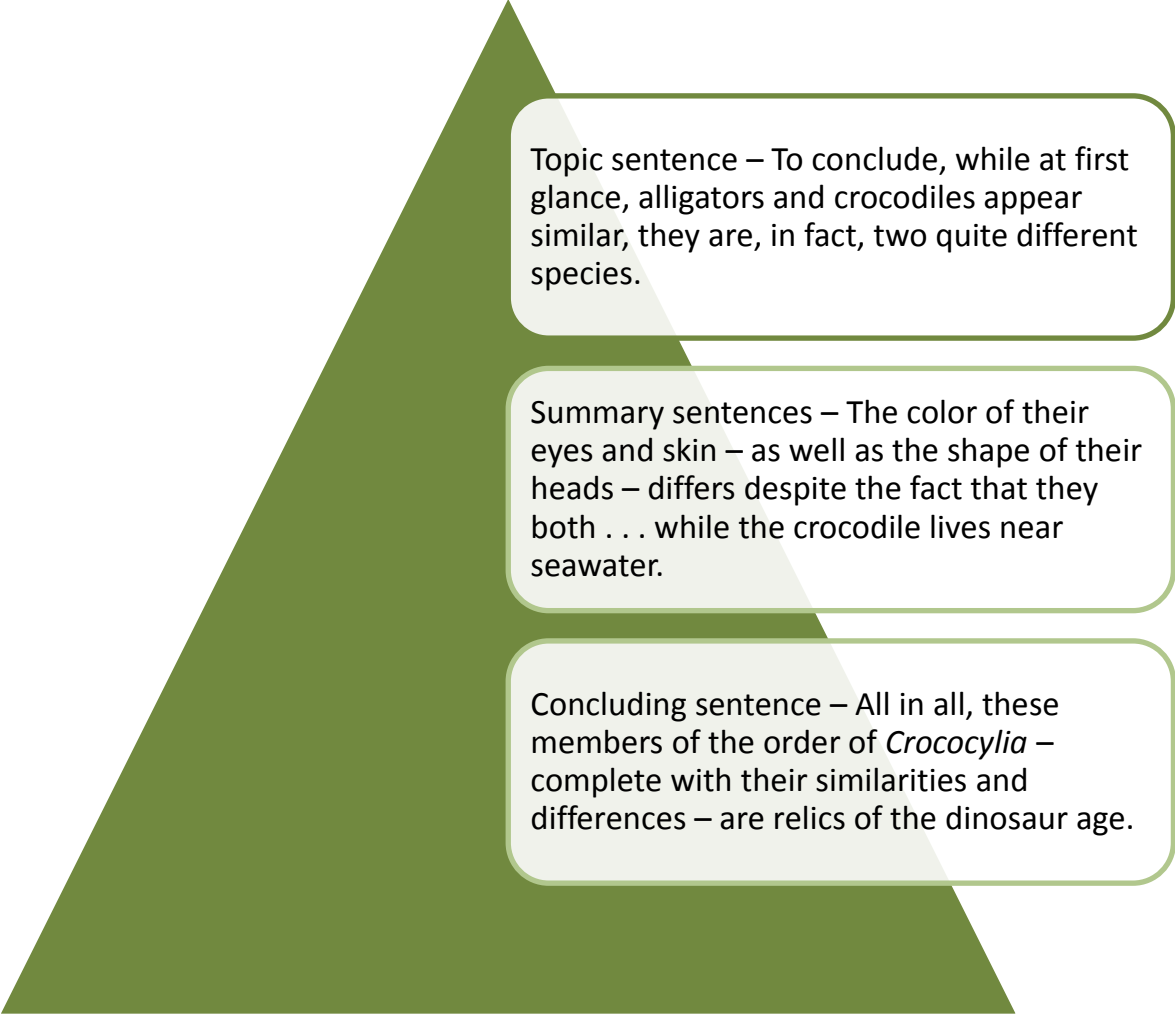


Topic sentence – Paraphrases thesis

Summary sentences – Summarizes main points

Concluding sentence – Gives a sense of completion by connecting the introduction and conclusion of paper

# An overview (cont.)



Topic sentence – To conclude, while at first glance, alligators and crocodiles appear similar, they are, in fact, two quite different species.

Summary sentences – The color of their eyes and skin – as well as the shape of their heads – differs despite the fact that they both . . . while the crocodile lives near seawater.

Concluding sentence – All in all, these members of the order of *Crococylia* – complete with their similarities and differences – are relics of the dinosaur age.

# Organizational Pattern

## 1. Topic sentence

- Begins with transition (*As can be seen, In brief, In closing, In conclusion, To conclude, To summarize, It is clear that . . .*)
- Paraphrases thesis sentence

## 2. Supporting sentences

- Summarizes main points
- Do not introduce a new topic

## 3. Concluding sentence

- Echoes back to introduction
- Does not introduce a new topic

# Sample paragraph

To conclude, while at first glance, alligators and crocodiles appear similar, they are, in fact, two quite different species. The color of their eyes and skin – as well as the shape of their heads – differs despite the fact that they both have a long tail, thick bumpy skin, sharp teeth, short legs, and webbed feet like a duck. Furthermore, although they are both carnivores, their powerful jaws and mouths are not the same. Another difference is that crocodiles are aggressive whereas an alligator is afraid of humans. Although the habitat of both is in water and on land, alligators choose to live near freshwater while the crocodile lives near seawater. \*All in all, these members of the order of *Crocodylia* – complete with their similarities and differences – are relics of the dinosaur age.

\*Ending sentence refers back to introduction which began with the following sentences: *Crocodylia* is an order of large reptiles which appeared approximately 83.5 million years ago during the late Cretaceous period. At today's zoos, visitors can see alligators and crocodiles, relics of the late Cretaceous period.