**CLOSING STRATEGIES LEAVE YOUR READER WITH A STRONG FINAL IMPRESSION.**

Restating your original thesis is required, but you should not just leave it at that (unless you are literally out of time!) Find ways to end your essays as impressively as you started them by incorporating one of the following suggestions (some are based on fiction; others on nonfiction-modify as you wish)

**Quote:** “Fair is foul and foul is fair, hover through the filthy air…” Indeed, into the air, Shakespeare’s Macbeth suspends the possibility that Macbeth’s vision of himself as king—while being a prophetic and juicy idea—may, in reality, be a self-destructive delusion.

**Opposite opinion:** Many American’s believe that going to war with Iraq in 2003 was a moral obligation to free the Iraqis from oppression; however, this essay will explore how oil, money, and power, more than altruistic duty, incentivized the declaration of war.

**Analogy/Anecdotal:** Like moon light filtering through ocean waves— like brooding prisms, Golding’s Lord of the Flies gives transparency to the frightening, organic evil swimming in the human psyche.

**Specific example:** As sweet as it may seem when Angel Clare calls Tess his “Artemis,” these flatteries forecast what Hardy later reveals as the terrible consequences of Romantic Idealism.

**Personal experience:** Stumbling towards me in the darkness, the homeless man begged through twisted, toothless lips for money. Uncomfortably, I reached for my wallet, realizing that more unnerving than his artless, groveling petition, would be for me to think I am better than he and that I somehow deserve the things I own.

**Startling statement:** I hate puppies. I shrug off sunshine. I hate symmetry. To me, beautiful things, while pleasing to the senses, do not emotionally move me the way broken, ugly, heart-breaking things do.

**Interesting fact:** In Latin, the word “Philosophy” actually denotes the Love of Wisdom, which leads me to believe that philosophers are more than just know-it-alls, but passionate learners.

**Rhetorical Question:** Did Angel truly Love Tess, or does Hardy’s text reveal the tragic tendency of people to pursue an illusion of perfection rather than embrace the imperfect but sweet realities?

**Confirm main point:** So, based on the nauseating evidence of how oil, money, and power were the true motives behind the Iraqi war, in spite of individuals’ honest patriotism, Americans cannot afford to not be more discriminating in the future when politicians, liberal or conservative, “cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war.”

**Summarize:** So, whereas politicians’ perceptions of spreading freedom in Iraq are tarred and feathered with oil and money, and while they starve for power, hopefully Americans begin to fear, rather than worship, war.

**Emphasize importance of implications:** Thus, Romantic idealism, manifested in Angel’s seemingly harmless idealization of Tess as “Artemis,” can ironically and monstrously smother the subtler, more down-to-earth, but nonetheless breathtaking beauties and wonders of the real life, or, in this case, the real girl.

**A proposal:** So, I gave some money to the beggar, realizing that my conscience is all I own; material possessions will dissolve in time and space. And I urge conscientious people everywhere to not, by withholding their money, compromise their sole possession.

**End with quotation that encapsulates claim:** So while, “amid the grey half-tones of the morning,” Angel mistakes Tess Durbeyfield for Artemis, flattering as that may be, his idealization of her blinds him to the complex, “gray,” layered depths of Tess’ womanhood. The beautifully tangible.

**Different Scenario/same implications:** Therefore, while inky, innate darkness, according to Golding, blackens humanity’s every cell—to acknowledge and confront it face to face may redeem both the human condition and the human soul.

**Circle back to opening strategy you used:** So, while I don’t actually hate puppies, sunshine, and symmetry—ugly, broken things/people have a shine and a symmetry that perhaps more strongly evokes our deeper emotional responses.

**Envision the future:** War is not inherently bad. But I envision a future where the reasons for waging war will be presented objectively, and with illuminating clarity, to the general populous—before, not after, the war.

**Conclusion Applied to larger audience:** Oedipus is mauled by bear-like Fate—eyeless. Songless. But the fear of fate’s arbitrary will is relevant today and still affects peoples’ choices. Humanity, as a whole, broods on like one, big self-fulfilling prophecy.

**Answer the rhetorical question you posed in the introduction:** Therefore, Angel did not truly love Tess, at least at the time of their marriage. Yet, with time and profound reflection, he felt his loss of Love in the end.