

Report writing - example of a conclusion

Online learning has become an important aspect of the way education is delivered. Initially, in tertiary education this push came about as a way of reducing course delivery costs, but as Gelonesi (2002) points out, online delivery is not necessarily a cheaper way of doing things. Some in the education sector also argue that online education is 'second-rate' because education is fundamentally interpersonal, and technology interferes with and reduces this interaction. However, it is becoming evident that students are seeking greater flexibility in their engagement with universities. For tertiary institutions like Beacon University, online delivery is an important way of providing this flexibility. As a major provider of tertiary education, Beacon has begun to introduce an online component into many of its courses. Most of Beacon's course materials are online, as are some administrative processes. A significant move is now being undertaken to put student support services online.

So, while the concerns about online education cannot be ignored, universities need to embrace this development, not as a replacement for face-to-face teaching, but as an alternative delivery mode. In some situations it may well be a more flexible alternative that better suits the needs of students. As Professor Anne Martin, Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Beakin University notes, "...[online learning is] a developing field and it's very exciting but it's important it's offered only where it's going to be better, more effective and more efficient" (cited in Gelonesi 2002, p. 3).

The following page explains the structure of this conclusion.

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Restatement of questions/problems that led to the preparation of the report

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Summary of key points

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Link back to the purpose of the report