

Packaging Wisdom in a Single Sentence

Opportunities arise in openings and conclusions of an essay, for a writer to demonstrate the confidence of their thinking in a short aphoristic statement. These short sentences have the benefit of provoking thought and demonstrating time was spent in crafting the thought into a highly meaningful form.

To write a sentence that demonstrates unshakeable conviction remember to

- Keep them short
- Use parallel construction
- Juxtaposition and even rhyme or near rhyme can be effective
- Abandon complex vocabulary for plain language

EXAMPLES:

1. Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel.
2. A stitch in time saves nine.
3. Out of sight, out of mind.
4. The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom.
5. Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.
6. To err is human, to forgive divine.

Now it's Your turn.

I'll provide a subject, and you try and write an aphoristic sentence that could serve as a solid punctuation mark to an essay.

CHOOSE

- the arbitrariness of bad luck
- the cost of getting what you want
- the profitability of failure
- the damage of ignorance
- the danger of impulse
- the thrill of risk