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cul·mi·nate  (kŭl mṑ-nāt')

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v. cul·mi·nat·ed, cul·mi·nat·ing, cul·mi·nates

v.intr.

1.

a. To reach the highest point or degree; climax: *habitual antagonism that culminated in open hostility.*

b. To come to completion; end: *Years of waiting culminated in a tearful reunion.*

2. Astronomy To reach the highest point above an observer's horizon. Used of stars and other celestial bodies.

v.tr.

To bring to the point of greatest intensity or to completion; climax: *The ceremony culminated a long week of preparation.*

[Late Latin *culmināre*, *culmināt-*, from Latin *culmen*, *culmin-*, summit; see **kel-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

cul'mi·na tion *n.*

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