

How to Write a Thesis Statement

Grade 6

There is no one way to write a thesis statement. Your thesis statement should persuade your readers, it should be specific, and it has to make a claim that others might dispute. Make sure your thesis statement passes the “so what” test. Most likely, you will not know your thesis statement immediately after reading the assignment. You will develop your thesis statement as you get further along in your writing. You can always change your thesis statement—right up until the day you have to turn the assignment in!

Grade 7

There is no right or wrong way to write your thesis statement, but there is a strong way and a weak way. A strong thesis statement needs a clear, strong, and logical argument that expresses your position. The reader should be able to argue for or against your thesis. Your thesis statement needs to represent what you are going to say in the rest of your paper. If the reader asks “how” or “why” questions, it is a weak thesis statement. For the best results, develop your thesis statement over time.