

Writing Essays → Thesis Statement

Level: Elementary School

A thesis statement begins an essay with clear direction. It introduces your topic, narrows your topic to a specific claim, and names the points of support (usually three) that you will develop in your essay. The formula for a thesis statement is

topic + claim + supporting points

Read the thesis statements below. Circle the topic, underline the claim, and number three points of support. Be careful, the parts of the formula may not always be in the same order!

1. Snow leads to many fun activities such as, sledding, snow ball fights, and snow fort building.
2. Peas, carrots, and tomatoes are foods my family grows in the garden.
3. With patience, you can train a dog to follow commands like: sit, lie down, and bark.
4. Garbage heaps, broken pots, and cave paintings help archaeologists learn about ancient people and cultures.
5. A fashionable outfit can be brought together through the use of accessories such as belts, scarves, and jewelry.

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6. The holidays my family celebrates come in three types: religious, national, and traditional.

7. The three basic needs of human beings are: food, clothing, and shelter.

8. My grandma lives far away but keeps in touch by sending me letters and emails, calling on the phone, and visiting once a year.

9. Boston's statues remind visitors of the city's important colonial residents including Paul Revere, Phyllis Wheatley (the first published African American poet), and Benjamin Franklin.

10. Professional baseball players must be flexible, adjusting to a grueling travel schedule, ball parks with dimensions that vary, and changing rules for inter-league play.