

Writing Essays: Thesis Statement

Level: Middle School

A thesis statement starts your essay with clear direction. It presents a topic, narrows that topic down 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.

Each thesis statement below is missing one part. Read through the thesis statements, and then read the missing parts at the bottom of the page. Write the letter of the missing part in the space in the sentence to which it belongs.

Unfinished Thesis Statements

1. Working dogs _____ are usually very intelligent.
2. _____ in the summertime can be a blessing and a curse, providing employment for construction workers, resulting in safer and easier travel, but also causing traffic delays.
3. During World War II, _____ collecting scrap metal, knitting for the troops, and buying stamps toward the purchase of government savings bonds.
4. _____ has many features and capabilities, but the most useful ones are the ability to make phone calls, the ability to access the internet, and the ability to access fun apps for times when you are waiting.
5. Baked goods rise due to ingredients such as _____.

Missing Parts

- a. children were involved in the war effort
- b. Highway construction
- c. like seeing eye dogs, sheep dogs, and police dogs
- d. A smart phone
- e. yeast, baking soda, or eggs.

Writing Essays: Thesis Statement Answer Sheet

1. c
2. b
3. a
4. d
5. e