

Thesis Statement

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Thesis Statement

- What is a thesis statement?
 - It is one or two sentences that express clearly and concisely the main idea(s) of your paper.
 - It should argue a position and answer questions posed by your paper.
 - It provides structure for the paper, as though it were a roadmap to help the reader navigate through the material.

Constructing the thesis statement

- How do you construct a good thesis statement?
 - Make sure your thesis reflects the full range of your argument. It should take some sort of stand or make a claim.
 - Choose a thesis that can be supported by several solid arguments. Ask yourself *How?* and *Why?* questions to deepen your thesis. It should justify discussion or control an argument.
 - Avoid using a thesis that is too broad to be defended in your paper or too narrow to be a full response to the assignment. It should express **one main idea** and be **specific**.

Examples of thesis statements

- Examples of thesis statements, which one is the best based on how a thesis is constructed?
 - A) The North and South fought the Civil War.
 - B) The North and South fought the Civil war for the same and some different reasons.
 - C) The North and South fought the Civil War for many reasons, some of which were the same and some different.
 - D) While both Northerners and Southerners believed they fought against tyranny and oppression, Northerners focused on the oppression of slaves while Southerners defended their own right to self-government.