Thesis Statements

Tips for Writing Your Thesis Statement

1. Determine what kind of paper you are writing; your thesis will differ depending on its purpose.

2. Your thesis statement should be specific—it should cover only what you will discuss in your paper and should be supported with specific evidence.

3. The thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph of a paper.

4. Your topic may change as you write, so you may need to revise your thesis statement to reflect exactly what you have discussed in the paper.

Thesis Statement Examples

Example of an analytical thesis statement:

- An analysis of the college admission process reveals one challenge facing counselors: accepting students with high test scores or students with strong extracurricular backgrounds.

Example of an expository (explanatory) thesis statement:

- The life of the typical college student is characterized by time spent studying, attending class, and socializing with peers.

Example of an argumentative thesis statement:

- High school graduates should be required to take a year off to pursue community service projects before entering college in order to increase their maturity and global awareness.