

Persuasive Thesis Statement

Thesis writing may seem intimidating, but it doesn't have to be! A good thesis can actually make writing your essay way easier.

What is a thesis?

Writing a “thesis-driven essay” implies that you are making an argument, or that you’re trying to prove a point. The thesis is the solid statement of the argument that your essay will make. A thesis can appear in the form of a single sentence, or in a couple sentences. It is the part of your essay that explains what you’re trying to say, or the point you’re trying to prove.

EXAMPLE: *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a social commentary on racism, which points out that racism only exists in the mind.*

So how do you write a thesis?

A good thesis can really make your paper awesome, but writing one is sometimes challenging. Just remember that your thesis should:

1. Explain what you’re going to argue.
 - a. What are you trying to prove?
 - b. Are there specific points to your argument? If yes, then what are they?
2. Be refutable.
 - a. When someone reads your thesis, they should instantly be able to argue against it. If your thesis isn’t arguable, then it’s not a thesis, but a statement of fact or observation. NOT A THESIS:
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a novel about rafting down a river.
3. Have sustenance.

- a. A good thesis probably can't be completely explained in a single paragraph.
- b. A strong thesis has layers of complexity that take time to explain and more importantly, prove.

Some helpful formats:

If you're having trouble creating a thesis, try these formulas to get you started:

1. (BLANK) is true because (REASON #1), (REASON #2), and (REASON #3). Each of these “reasons” then becomes a body paragraph.
2. (BLANK) is (BLANK) as is evidenced by (TEXTUAL EVIDENCE).
3. Scholars argue that (BLANK), but the (text/article, etc.) actually says (BLANK) based on (my approach to the text). Thesis and Conclusions What is perhaps even more difficult than writing a thesis is writing a conclusion.

Persuasive Thesis Statement Examples

1. Is a college education necessary?

A college education is not the right choice for everyone, as many students graduate with a large amount of student debt and limited job opportunities.

2. Does Facebook (or other forms of social media) create isolation?

College students who overuse Facebook may have interactive online lives, but in reality, they are more isolated than ever because they are missing out on true face-to-face interaction with their peers.

3. Should guns be permitted on college campuses?

Guns should not be permitted on college campuses due to the increased likelihood of violence and criminal activity.

4. Do kids benefit if everyone on the team receives a trophy?

Handing out trophies to everyone on a team has created a generation of children who feel entitled.

5. Is society too dependent on technology?

Due to increasing over-dependence on technology, many people struggle to think for themselves.

6. Should all high school students be required to complete parenting classes?

In order to both educate teens about life as a parent and to help prevent teenage pregnancy, high school students should be required to complete parenting classes.

7. Does the school day start too early?

Starting the school day at a later time will help increase students' attentiveness because they will get more sleep and be more alert and focused in class.

8. Should the minimum wage be increased?

With the cost of living continually rising, minimum wage must be raised to help workers out of poverty.

9. Should elementary schools teach cursive handwriting?

Though many elementary schools no longer teach cursive handwriting, it is still an essential form of communication that should be taught in schools.

10. Should childhood vaccinations be mandatory?

Childhood vaccinations should be mandatory, as they are safe, reduce the risk of illness, and protect other people from contagious diseases.