



*Your thesis statement is like a lighthouse...  
because it will guide you along the way.*

- Writers, Inc.

Every exhibit, performance, documentary, paper and web site should make a point about its topic. To do this, you must develop your own argument of the historical impact of the person, event, pattern or idea you are studying. Your thesis statement explains what you believe to be the impact and significance of your topic in history.

***Thesis Statement = Topic + Theme + Impact***

If writing a paper, a thesis statement is usually at the end of your introductory paragraph, serving as a mini outline for the paper. The rest of the paper, the body of the essay, gathers and organizes evidence that will persuade the reader of the logic of your interpretation.

## Thesis Statement Rubric

Student Name: _____		
Language Arts Teacher: _____		Period: _____
Social Studies Teacher: _____		Period: _____
<b>0 = No Evidence; 1 = Incomplete Evidence; 2 = Evident; 3 = Clearly Evident;</b>		
<b>GRADING REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>Student Self-Evaluation:</b>	<b>Teacher Evaluation:</b>
I.) Thesis includes elements of the Theme.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
II.) Thesis states the main topic.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
III.) Thesis clearly states the impact of the topic.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
IV.) Topic placed in relevant historical context.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
V.) Important who, what, when, where, why included.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
VI.) Thesis is between 40 and 80 words in length.	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
VII.) Technical details all correct (no I, we, they, us)	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3
	Total: _____	Total: _____
Student Signature: _____	Parent Signature: _____	