

Thesis Statements

Definition

A thesis statement is the position, topic, or main point of the paper. It's a sentence that answers the questions about your topic. Many types of papers, such as argumentative papers, position papers, and literature reviews, need a thesis statement because it helps the reader understand your main idea/position. It also helps you, the writer, stay on track as you write your paper.

A Thesis Statement IS

- As clear, concise, and specific as possible
- An answer to the questions about your topic
- Rational and supported by genuine facts

A Thesis Statement is NOT

- Broad or vague
- An outline of the paper
- A question
- An opinion not supported by evidence

Creating a Thesis Statement

1. Select a topic: Disney princesses

2. Figure out what's significant about your topic: Disney movies are becoming more feminist and Disney princesses are becoming more independent and hardworking

3. Ask yourself a "how" and "why" question about your topic: How have Disney's princesses changed throughout the years? Why has Disney made its movies more feminist?

4. Answer your previous question(s): Older princesses' problems were solved once they married their princes, whereas recent princesses tend to save themselves and challenge gender norms. Disney movies follow the mindset of society.

Examples of thesis statements

Disney movies have made strides in promoting feminist values by featuring strong and independent female characters who transcend patriarchal expectations.

Disney has made steps in promoting feminist values through its portrayal of strong female characters, but its history of gender stereotyping is problematic.

Although Disney has made strides in promoting feminist values through its portrayal of strong female characters, it still has much work to do.

