

# Thesis Statement Checklist

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## Is your thesis statement...

- Worth presenting, and is the answer to a question that could be debated? (i.e., it is not an obvious truism or vague generalization.)
- Expressed concisely in one or two complete sentences?
- Supportable by details, facts, and examples within the assigned limitations of time and space?

## Does your thesis statement...

- Make an argument or present a point of view?
- Go beyond announcing your topic?  
Do more than state a fact, and instead tell a **how** or **why**?
- Act as a roadmap that unifies all the ideas in your essay?
- Lay out a structure that you can follow in the body of your essay?
- Include only ideas that you fully explain in your essay?
- Fit the evidence you use in your paper?

**\*To be attached to back of Formulating a Thesis Statement Handout**