

Tips for Writing Your Thesis Statement

Determine what kind of paper you are writing:

1. **Analytical:** breaks down an issue or idea into parts, evaluates the issue or idea, and presents the breakdown and evaluation to the audience.
2. **Expository:** explains something to the audience.
3. **Argumentative:** makes a claim about a topic and justifies this claim with specific evidence. Claims can be an opinion, a policy proposal, an evaluation, a cause-and-effect statement, or an interpretation.

Keep these things in mind:

- Your thesis statement should be specific – cover only what you will discuss in your paper and is supported by evidence.
- Your thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph.
- 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.

*Tardiff, E. & Brizee, A. (2011, February 24). Tips and examples for writing thesis statements. Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/545/01/>