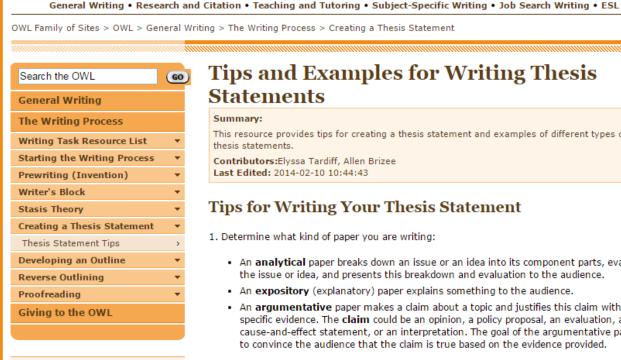


Engagement

OWL Purdue Online Writing Lab



Purdue OWL

Suggested Resources

- -MLA Guide
- -APA Guide
- -How to Navigate the New OWL
- -Media File Index
- -OWL Exercises

Tips and Examples for Writing Thesis Statements

Summary:

OWL News

Writing Lab

This resource provides tips for creating a thesis statement and examples of different types of

Research

Contact

Site Map

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Tips for Writing Your Thesis Statement

- 1. Determine what kind of paper you are writing:
 - An analytical paper breaks down an issue or an idea into its component parts, evaluates the issue or idea, and presents this breakdown and evaluation to the audience.
 - An expository (explanatory) paper explains something to the audience.
 - . An argumentative paper makes a claim about a topic and justifies this claim with specific evidence. The claim could be an opinion, a policy proposal, an evaluation, a cause-and-effect statement, or an interpretation. The goal of the argumentative paper is to convince the audience that the claim is true based on the evidence provided.

If you are writing a text that does not fall under these three categories (e.g., a narrative), a thesis statement somewhere in the first paragraph could still be helpful to your reader.

- 2. Your thesis statement should be specific-it should cover only what you will discuss in your paper and should be supported with specific evidence.
- 3. The thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph of a paper.
- 4. 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.

To begin, I talk with students about thesis statements in general. I use this resource from the Purdue Owl:

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/res ource/545/01/

Song Suggestions:

- "Let it Go" –Frozen soundtrack
- "Radioactive" Imagine Dragons
- "True Colors" Cyndi Lauper
- "Jumper" Third Eye Blind
- "Fighter" Christina Aguilera
- "Riser" Dierks Bentley
- "Cant Stop the Feeling" Justin Timberlake