

One of the skills you will need for this class is to make strong thesis/claim statements. Follow along with the Power Point and fill in the blanks

(Supplemental reading Common Threads, pages 179-183).

A Thesis/Claim Statement...

- Tells the reader _____

- Is a _____

- Directly _____

- is an _____

- Makes a _____

- Is usually

Common Problems with Thesis/Claim Statements:

1. Your -



2. Your

3. Your

4. Your

5. Your

Pointers for writing a thesis/claim statement:

1. Take a

- You could argue that Wilde uses anecdotes instead of dramatic irony to portray love.
- You could also argue that Wilde uses dramatic irony to portray social hypocrisy within the text.

2. Only express

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-
- The thesis clearly focuses on one theme and one stylistic element.

3. Your thesis statement must

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-
-
- To choose a side, it is important to use specific language. There are no words like seems, looks like, appears. These words make you sound like you're unsure of what you want to say, and therefore automatically leads to multiple opinions in your thesis.

4. A thesis statement

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- Take a look at number one. If someone can disagree with you over a specific idea, you are on the right track.
 - The thesis clearly focuses on one theme and one stylistic element.

5. Your thesis statement must -

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-
- To choose a side, it is important to use specific language. There are no words like seems, looks like, appears. These words make you sound like you're unsure of what you want to say, and therefore automatically leads to multiple opinions in your thesis.

Below is a checklist to help you employ the "pointers" above

Thesis/Claim Statement criteria checklist		
	Yes	No
1. Does it Tell the reader how you will interpret the importance of the subject matter under discussion?		

2. Is it a road map for your paper?		
3. Does it directly answer the question asked of you?		
4. Does it express one main idea?		
5. Does it choose 1 side of the issue?		
6. Is it an interpretation of a question or subject?		
7. Does it Make a claim that others can dispute (argue against)?		
8. Is it limited to 1 sentence? (In the future there will be opportunities to write thesis statements that are more than 1 sentence long, but for now let's stick to one sentence.)		

So you know what you should do when writing a claim statement but

Where do you start?

Consider the concept:

- ⊙ **The function of the paper and the thesis**

- ⊙ **Why are you writing the paper?**

- ⊙ **Once you know**

Ask yourself the following question(s):

- ⊙ **What is**

⊙ What is

⊙ What is

⊙ What is

Steps to making a thesis statement

1. Reduce

EXAMPLE

⊙ Explain how the author's use of this particular style element helps to convey your selected theme, and how this creates meaning within the text

⊙ Question: Which theme do you see repeated most in the text and how does the author treat this theme in regards to style.

2. -----

⊙ The theme of injustice in the novel _____ is shown through John Steinbeck's use of characterization.

Here is another copy of the checklist

Use it to check your claim statements before you post them on Canvas

Practice - Thesis/Claim Statement criteria checklist		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
1. Does it tell the reader how you will <u>interpret</u> the importance of the subject matter under discussion?		
2. Is it a road map for your paper?		
3. Does it directly answer the question asked of you?		
4. Does it express one main idea?		

5.	Does it choose 1 side of the issue?	
6.	Is it an <u>interpretation</u> of a question or subject?	
7.	Does it Make a claim that others can dispute (argue against)?	
8.	Is it limited to 1 sentence? (In the future there will be opportunities to write thesis statements that are more than 1 sentence long, but for now let's stick to one sentence.)	