

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. Why does a paper need one? Because it helps the reader understand your main idea/position.

It also helps you, the writer, stay on track as you write your paper.

Some papers that have thesis statements are:

- Argumentative Papers
- Position Papers
- Literature Reviews

A Thesis Statement IS

- Clear, concise, and specific as possible
- Answering 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

Creating a Thesis Statement

1. Select a topic: Disney princesses
2. Figure out what's significant about your topic: a. Disney movies becoming more feminist b. Princesses being more independent and hardworking
3. Ask yourself a "how" or "why" question about your topic: How have Disney's princesses changed throughout the years? Why has Disney made their 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 Good Thesis Statements

Disney movies have made strides in promoting feminist values through their portrayal of 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.