Purpose of a Thesis Statement

examine why thesis statements are crucial to a paper.

For a Reader

Thesis statements act as a roadmap that drive readers from one paragraph to another. Having a

Moreover, having a thesis statement gives the reader a reason to continue reading. Without a statement to provide structure, readers would be left confused and disengaged.

For a Writer

When drafting your own paper, a thesis statement can help clarify your focus and help organize your paper. Your claim should be referred to throughout the paper, and your points can help structure the body paragraphs. In this manner, a thesis statement acts as a planning tool to organize your ideas. Keep in mind that while drafting your paper, your claim or supporting points can change; with it, your thesis statement should be updated as well.

For Different Disciplines

While thesis statements should contain a topic, claim, and points, these elements can be characterized differently depending on the discipline.

Literature: In general, literary thesis statements tend to be an *interpretive argument* (claim) with *evidence* (points). Keep in mind that claims in li

Thesis Example:

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Business: A thesis statement for a business paper is targeted to a *specific audience*, in a straightforward way, and delivers a *clear purpose* (Hacker and Sommers). It's important to keep the audience in mind for business writing because this is whom the paper is appealing to.

<u>Thesis Example:</u> This paper proves that a business lasts the longest if it has a strategic management policy [PURPOSE], developed by a team of expert business planners [AUDIENCE]. It also extends a leg to highlight how strategies support handsome revenue [PURPOSE cont.] (Management Writing Solutions, 2019).

<u>History</u>: In contrast to a contestable claim, historical papers observe the actions or words of individuals from the past. Therefore, a historical thesis statement identifies the *cause* and the *effect* of historical events. Rather than confirming what the reader already knows, a historical paper and similarly its thesis aims to change the reader's value on a historical event or matter (Hacker and Sommers).

Thesis Example:

immigration policies [CAUSE] in such a way that no group, minority or majority, was singled out by being discriminated against or given preferential treatment in terms of its ability to

Characteristics of a Strong Thesis

Example:

(University of Arizona, Writing Center)

Expository

An expository paper explains a topic by describing rela

helpful to think of subtopics as key aspects that relate to your topic. Thus, your thesis statement should contain *a topic* and its *key aspects*

3. Expository Essay Thesis: