



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Think Up a Thesis

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The thesis statement is one of the most important parts of any essay. It sums up the main idea of your essay. It is important to be as specific as possible because the thesis directs the rest of your writing!

**EXAMPLE:** George Washington was a great President.

This thesis is too vague. It's not going to keep your paper focused.

**By controlling the amount of power given to the President, George Washington secured his place in history as one of our greatest Presidents.**

This thesis presents a focused argument because there is a clear stance on the issue. Readers will expect to find out how Washington limited executive power and how that shaped the government.

**Directions:** Rewrite the following thesis statements to make them more specific.

1. The Jonas Brothers are cool.

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2. Football is a fun sport.

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3. *High School Musical* is a hit with teens.

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4. Shaun White is an awesome athlete.

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5. Reading is an interesting pastime.

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