

Name:  
Period:  
Date:

### Thesis Statement Building Worksheet

“In college, course assignments often ask you to make a persuasive case in writing. You are asked to convince your reader of your point of view. This form of persuasion, often called *academic argument*, follows a predictable pattern in writing. After a brief introduction of your topic, you state your point of view on the topic directly and often in one sentence. This sentence is the thesis statement, and it serves as a summary of the argument you’ll make in the rest of your paper.

**A thesis statement:**

- tells the reader how you will interpret the significance of the subject matter under discussion.
- is a road map for the paper; in other words, it tells the reader what to expect from the rest of the paper. directly answers the question asked of you. A thesis is an interpretation of a question or subject, not the subject itself. The subject, or topic, of an essay might be World War II or Moby Dick; a thesis must then offer a way to understand the war or the novel.
- makes a claim that others might dispute.
- is usually a single sentence somewhere in your first paragraph that presents your argument to the reader. The rest of the paper, the body of the essay, gathers and organizes evidence that will persuade the reader of the logic of your interpretation.”

–UNC Writing Center

Text(s):

Possible Topics (related to text):

- |    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Essential Question (related to topic as it appears in text):

Theme (short sentence or phrase that gives a basic answer to E. Q.):

Turn page over -->

