

1. The role of a thesis statement in your dissertation

A thesis statement is the one-sentence statement that encapsulates the central idea of your dissertation. It is the heart of an academic research paper, without which the paper would be basically pointless. Since it is the heart, it is the center of the paper's development. It is the first sentence to begin, and the last sentence to finish.

2. Why starting your dissertation with a thesis statement?

Starting your dissertation with a thesis statement will help to generate a focus point and direction in the writing. It will become the basis of the writing development. With the statement, the subsequent writing stages will be predominately about the support, elaboration, and confirmation of the thesis statement.

3. What are the conditions for a thesis statement to be satisfactory?

Five basic conditions:

- (i) For the purpose of clarity, a thesis statement is normally written in one sentence.
- (ii) For the purpose of an effective communication with the readers, a thesis statement must be objectively verifiable.
- (iii) There must be conditions for a thesis statement to be true or false.
- (iv) The proof of a thesis statement comes from the premise or premises that support the statement.
- (v) The sentence structure of a thesis statement must be simple.

4. How to build a thesis statement

Please follow the step-by-step guidance given below.

Practical Steps:

- (i) Find a Noun or Noun Phrase that can best describe the main topic of your research paper.
- (ii) Build a Sentence based on the noun or noun phrase by adding a verb or predicate.
- (iii) Turn the sentence into a Question that is of interest to you.
- (iv) Give a Hypothetical Answer to the question.
- (v) Summarize the answer into just One Sentence.
- (vi) Modify the one-sentence thesis statement until it expresses a Clear Relation between the sentence's Subject and Predicate.
- (vii) Highlight and eliminate the Ambiguities tainted with the subject and predicate of the thesis statement.
- (viii) A preliminary thesis statement is formed.