

Is It a Thesis?

It is now time to find out if all that information about types of essays and thesis statements has sunk in.

Be sure to remember these simple rules:

1. Be sure that the thesis is an opinion, and doesn't just state the topic of the paper.
2. Be sure that your thesis does not just state a general fact.
3. Be sure that your thesis is not too broad.
4. Be sure that your thesis statement is a complete sentence.

Directions: Read each of the following proposed thesis statements. Use your handouts to help you decide whether the proposed thesis statements actually qualify as thesis statements or not. An example has been done for you.

Ex. Proposed Thesis: *Sports are an important part of many cultures.*

- a. Is it an opinion? Yes.
- b. Does the proposed thesis qualify as a thesis statement? No.
- c. How do you know? It is an opinion, but the thesis is too broad (Rule #3).
- d. If it should be fixed, how can you fix it? Baseball is an important part of American culture.
- e. For what type of essay(s) could this thesis statement be used? expository, persuasive

1. Proposed Thesis: *Violence on television causes violent behavior in children.*

- a. Is it an opinion? _____
- b. Does the proposed thesis qualify as a thesis statement? _____
- c. How do you know?

- d. If it should be fixed, how can you fix it?

- e. For what type of essay(s) could this thesis statement be used? _____

Name _____ Period _____

2. Proposed Thesis: *Soccer is a sport played around the world.*

a. Is it an opinion? _____

b. Does the proposed thesis qualify as a thesis statement? _____

c. How do you know?

d. If it should be fixed, how can you fix it?

e. For what type of essay(s) could this thesis statement be used? _____

3. Proposed Thesis: *I enjoy hiking and biking in the mountains.*

a. Is it an opinion? _____

b. Does the proposed thesis qualify as a thesis statement? _____

c. How do you know?

d. If it should be fixed, how can you fix it?

e. For what type of essay(s) could this thesis statement be used? _____

4. Proposed Thesis: *Steroid use should be banned from all professional sports.*

a. Is it an opinion? _____

b. Does the proposed thesis qualify as a thesis statement? _____

c. How do you know?

