

## **Thesis Statements and Key Terms I**

**Purpose:** Upon completion of this activity, students will understand the importance of a thesis statement, topic sentences, and transition devices in essay writing. **This DLA should take approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours to complete.**

1. View the attached PowerPoint presentation entitled “Thesis Statements, Topic Sentences, Transition Sentences, and Body Paragraphs: The Ultimate Guide.” While reading, please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:
  - 1) What is a thesis statement? What does a good thesis statement do?
  - 2) About how many supporting topics should your paper have?
  - 3) The supporting reasons in your thesis will do what?
  - 4) How should each topic sentence be connected to the thesis?
  - 5) What are the four methods for providing transitions between ideas?
  - 6) Even though writers are often told not to repeat themselves, why is repetition of key words and phrases needed in essays?
  - 7) What is parallelism?
2. What questions do you still have about thesis statements, topic sentences, and use of key words and other transitions? Write your questions below.
3. Finally, visit a tutor or instructor and review your answers to the questions above and ask any questions you still have.

**Attach a confirmation sheet or get a signature below:**

Instructor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_