



## Creating Effective Thesis Statements Foundation Lesson

After reading a novel, poem, play, short story, or nonfiction selection, complete the following steps toward developing a thesis.

### Identifying the Subjects of a Text

The selection was about...

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Forming a Literary Analysis Thesis Based on the Author's Beliefs

What does the author of the text believe or think about the subjects identified above? Write in complete statements that do not include the author's name.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Forming a Literary Analysis Thesis Based on a Personal Belief**

What do you think about the author’s view of life as it is expressed in the work you have just read? Use the statements you have written above as a springboard for your own thoughts.

**Forming a Non-Literary Thesis Based on an Opinion**

Brainstorm several subjects about which you have a definite opinion.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_

Now write down your ideas or beliefs about these subjects.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Select the thesis statement that expresses your strongest convictions about the subject. Then note quotes and concrete details from the selection or facts and reasons that will support your thesis.