

## Thesis Statements

Once you have gathered ideas, it is time to write your thesis statement. A **thesis statement** is the road map to your essay. Your entire essay will develop from your thesis statement. The thesis statement answers the question set forth in the writing prompt, is clear and to the point, prepares the reader for the remainder of the essay, and can stand on its own.

The following are examples of solid thesis statements.

- Teenagers work in order to gain responsibility, save for the future, and earn their own money.
- Maintaining a well-balanced diet has a direct impact on a person's quality of life because he is healthier, feels better, and looks better.

The **thesis statements** above can be changed to an **implied thesis statement** where the specific ideas are not outlined; however, the statement still prepares the reader for the remainder of the essay.

- Although it may be challenging, it is imperative for teenagers to work.
- While exercise is beneficial, maintaining a well-balanced diet has a direct impact on person's quality of life.

Both forms of **thesis statements** achieve the same outcome:

- answers the question in the prompt
- is clear and to the point
- prepares the reader for the remainder of the essay
- can stand on its own

For an **implied thesis statement**, remember to follow the formula: **LB, S.**

- Use a subordinate clause (*left branch*) before a complete sentence.
- In a persuasive essay, address the opposing view point in the *left branch*.
- Begin the **implied thesis statement** with one of the following **subordinate conjunctions** followed by a subject and verb.

after	because	since	unless
although	before	so that	when
as	even though	until	while

**Write On!**

