

## A Word on Theses Statements

Hi Everyone;

Thesis statements in an essay consist of two bits: a topic and a point—a “what” and a “so what”. Be sure to have both.

In other words, when you are writing an essay on any topic, you are about to say something about something. It’s not the “something” that is at issue or to be argued—it’s the “Saying”, or the claims (points, argument) you are about to present. That’s your point of view, and that’s what you must back up with proof or citations. Those citations are where your knowledge, your expertise, your authority, come from, and it’s that source work that other might argue against with their own sources.

So you begin by saying, in essence, “I’m going to talk about this subject, and I’m going to say these things about it, and I think these things-though controversial-are true because 1;2;3.

1. 1: First....
2. Second...
3. And finally, 3...

Look for these elements in your own and in others’ thesis statement.

*Onward!*

*Terrance*