

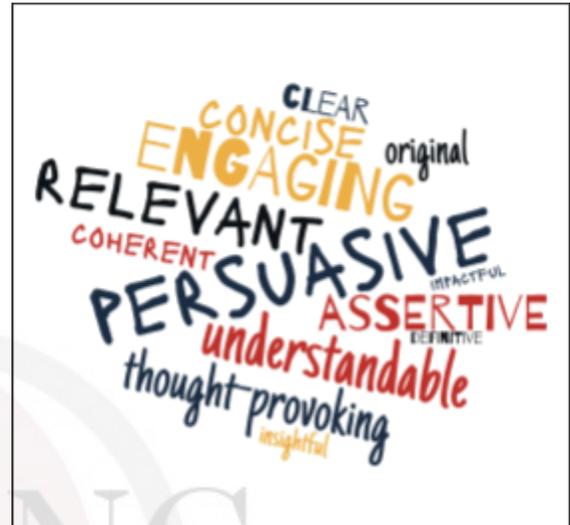
## Thesis Statements

**Your thesis is a good sign of whether your paper is worth reading.**

Although it sometimes gets buried underneath deadlines and grades and other reasons, here's the truth: We write in order to be read. In academic essays especially, part of that purpose is established with the thesis statement. Often the last 1-2 sentences of your introduction, **your thesis statement communicates the direction of your paper**—its argument, position/stance. When written well, it focuses your readers on what they're about to read and guides their understanding along the way.

### How should my thesis statement be?

Your thesis statement is the North Star. It shows the way the essay will go. For that reason, make it shine by writing a thesis statement that is clear, specific, interesting, debatable, relevant, compelling, original, focused, etc.



### Building a thesis statement



### What can a thesis statement communicate?

<p>Through the use of language and rhetorical devices in his "I Have a Dream" speech, Martin Luther King, Jr., strategically appeals to the audience's emotions and values to inspire a collective call for racial justice and equality.</p>	<p><b>Readers will expect you to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and analyze King's language and rhetorical devices</li> <li>Explain how he uses his language to inspire the audience</li> </ul>
<p>The rise of the internet has had a transformative effect on global communication, revolutionizing the way people exchange information and interact with one another.</p>	<p><b>Readers will expect you to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how the internet has transformed global communication</li> </ul>
<p>The government should enact stricter gun control measures, including universal background checks and a ban on assault weapons, in order to reduce gun violence and promote public safety.</p>	<p><b>Readers will expect you to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide evidence supporting how stricter measures will reduce gun violence and improve safety</li> </ul>