

Name: _____

Miss Crossley

__ LA Period: _____

Date: _____

Argumentative Research Thesis Statement Examples

A thesis statement is a sentence that makes an **assertion** about a topic and predicts how the topic will be developed. It does not simply announce a topic; it says something about the topic, and it provides the framework for your paper.

A thesis statement makes a promise to the reader about the scope, purpose, and direction of the paper. It summarizes the **conclusion** that the writer has reached about the topic.

For the writer, the thesis statement **serves as a planning tool**. It helps the writer determine the real focus of the paper and clarify the relationship between ideas. It becomes the hook on which the writer can “hang” the topic sentences that present evidence in support of the argument. It **anticipates** questions about the topic and provides the **unifying** thread between pieces of information.

Be sure your thesis...

1. takes a stand – do not just state an observation.
2. expresses one main idea – keep it narrow and specific.
3. is only one sentence in length.

Directions: The **topics** are bolded in the thesis examples below. Choose one color to highlight the claim and one to highlight the opinion/position. (Please highlight the underlined words with the color you chose so I know which is which.)

- Reducing the occurrences of **underage drinking** is imperative to protect the lives of young people.
- Closing **failing public schools** and increasing federal funding for education is necessary for the benefit of underprivileged students.
- **Standardized tests** are an unfair measure of students’ intelligence and academic performance; therefore, the tests must be changed drastically or abandoned.
- For the benefit of American citizens and the economy, the **minimum wage law** must be abolished.
- The **death penalty** must be abolished in the United States for its inhumane and ineffective practice.
- **Cyber-bullying** should be a criminal, punishable offense in the United States in order to protect the nation’s children and teenagers.

- Educating **teenagers** about a healthy **body image** is imperative to protect the health of all people.
- Decreasing **social and media influence on body image** is crucial in the reduction of teenage cosmetic surgeries and eating disorders.
- **Government funding** must be utilized to protect human lives and the environment from the negative effects of global warming.
- Media attention and government **research funding for global warming** must be ceased immediately as it exists only as a myth of science.
- **Texting while driving** must be made illegal before more fatal accidents occur as a result of this distracting habit.
- The United States military must remove all troops from **Afghanistan** before more soldiers die unnecessarily.
- Reducing the exposure of **children** to **violent media** is essential to prevent a large portion of brutally aggressive crimes.
- In order to protect the health of young people, **children** should not be prescribed mind-altering **medications** without full psychiatric evaluations.
- Harsher penalties must be enforced when punishing **child abusers** in order to protect the lives of innocent children.
- Implementing stricter punishments for **domestic abusers** is imperative to protect the lives of their victims and their children.
- Current **airport security** measures are essential to guard American citizens against the significant potential for terrorism.
- Torture of potential terrorists by the **United States military** is justified in order to protect Americans and save human lives worldwide.
- The **United States military** must work to end drug trafficking on a worldwide basis since the drug trade funds terrorism.
- In order to decrease gang activity in the United States, lawmakers and educators must work to provide **gang-alternative education** programs.
- In order to ensure government trust among citizens worldwide, punishment for corrupt **politicians** must be harsher.

- **Nuclear weapons** must be banned worldwide due to their highly destructive potential.
- The United States must mandate **recycling programs** in all private and public places to protect the future of our planet.
- The **genetic engineering of children** must be banned in the United States due to its ethical violations.
- **School lunches** must be made affordable and nutritious for the benefit of children's health.
- **Nutritional content** of food in restaurants and grocery stores must be improved in order to decrease America's growing obesity rates.
- In order to diminish the growing trend in needless **cosmetic plastic surgery**, the public must be educated on the negative consequences and discouraged to alter their bodies.
- American citizens have the legal right to own a **gun** for protection and it is imperative that they are not denied.
- For the benefit of Americans' safety, the Constitutional right for citizens to own a **gun** must be upheld.
- For the health and safety of children worldwide, it is imperative that the use of children in **sweatshop factories** ceases.
- Products made in **sweatshops** must be prohibited from being sold in the United States due to the inhumane working conditions forced upon children of this industry.
- The **adoption of unwanted children** by celebrities is crucial to saving the lives of unwanted children.
- **Life sentences** must be ordered for all convicted murderers – regardless of their ages – for the protection of American citizens.
- School officials and the government must aggressively address **cyber-bullying** due to its emotional and physical consequences.
- The **death penalty** must be upheld in the United States in order to prevent violent crimes and to punish brutal criminals.