

Thesis Writing

AP US History
AP European History

Thesis Paragraph

- 1st paragraph of your essay
- Will consist of 3 sentences: the Introductory Statement; the Although Statement; and the Explanatory Statement
- Together, these sentences constitute the “Thesis Statement”
- You **WILL NOT** get credit for a thesis if you do not follow this model.

Introductory Statement

- Restates the prompt in a SENTENCE that is in an answer format; does NOT simply rewrite the question
- It tells, in general, what students will be writing about in their essay
- The student should also use the Introductory Statement to make sure they have included all aspects of the prompt when answering the question.

Introductory Statement

- Example: Analyze the reasons why football is so popular in America.
- *There are many reasons why football is the most popular sport in America.*

Although Statement

- Key sentence in the 1st paragraph; this is the position statement. EVERY history thesis requires a position statement.
- It should create a natural tension in the essay, stating what is most important by simply using the word “although.”
- The sentence must begin with the word “although.” Again, you MUST have this in order to receive credit.

Although Statement

- Example: Analyze the reasons why football is so popular in America.
- *Although football is popular because of athleticism and great rivalries, the most important reason football dominates American sports is the emergence of fantasy football.*

Explanatory Statement

- It really tells the reader how or why the student has chosen the position they have taken.
- Student will talk about the most important aspect of their “Although Sentence” in their Explanatory Statement.
- The student should use it to explain how/ why they have chosen that category as the most important

Explanatory Statement

- Example: Analyze the reasons why football is so popular in America
- *Fantasy football has the greatest impact on football's popularity because it has become a multimillion dollar industry that gives fans a stake in every game.*

The Thesis Statement

- *There are many reasons why football is the most popular sport in America. **Although football is popular because of athleticism and great rivalries, the most important reason football dominates American sports is the emergence of fantasy football.** Fantasy football has the greatest impact on football's popularity because it has become a multimillion dollar industry that gives fans a stake in every game.*