

Name _____

Paragraph/Essay Plan Sheet

Title _____

Topic Sentence _____

Reason

Explain/Elaborate

—
—

Reason

Explain/Elaborate

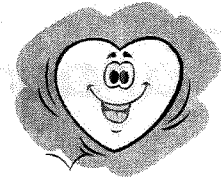
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Reason

Explain/Elaborate

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Conclusion _____



Thesis Statement in an Introductory Paragraph

A thesis statement is just like the topic sentence you write when you write a paragraph. Like a topic sentence, the purpose of a thesis statement is to identify the topic (the occasion – the reason for writing) and the position (your opinion – what you plan to prove or explain). This statement controls the rest of the paper.

A thesis statement:

- is the heart of your paper.
- gives the main idea of an essay.
- contains key words and ideas that indicate the focus of the essay.
- presents a general idea that will be supported by reasons, details, or facts in the essay.
- might be called your position, assertion, premise, or controlling statement.