

## Creating a Terrific Thesis Statement

A thesis statement must have 5 parts and be included in ONE sentence:

1. Title of work
2. Author's full name
3. Genre
4. Arguable point being made about the work (what you are proving)
5. A connection to the big picture or lesson the author wants you to take away after reading the work

\* Note: 4 and 5 above may be the same thing.

Be sure that your writing is clear, precise and concise.

Do not repeat any words in the statement.

Examples of complete thesis statements:

Through Nurse Ratched's supposed "therapy" in Ken Kesey's novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, readers are inspired to guard their personalities and maintain control of their lives.

In Ken Kesey's novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Big Nurse Ratched's suffocating authority and power over the patients is the catalyst that triggers reactions and

events, demonstrating that people should not put themselves in a position where they are being controlled.

In Ken Kesey's novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, the patients may seem insane, but the theme of sanity versus insanity proves that being mentally ill is misunderstood; people are willing to judge without seeing beyond the surface.

In William Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*, the predominant theme of loyalty versus betrayal in Hamlet's relationships demonstrates that friendship is a necessity in life.

In William Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*, Hamlet appears insane to most characters so that he may take his revenge, but he actually retains his sanity for the whole play; this proves that believing only what appears to be is dangerous.

Through treachery and betrayal, William Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*, proves that those expected to be most loyal may be the first to deceive.

In William Shakespeare's play, *Hamlet*, the theme of betrayal versus loyalty proves that those friends who do not betray are the ones to keep close.