

## Useful tips for writing strong Thesis Statements

**What is a thesis statement?** It is a complete sentence or two in the introduction of your paper that expresses your position on a given topic and directly answers the task or question asked of you<sup>1</sup>.

### Useful tips:

1. Think about your topic and research it before taking a position.
2. Your thesis statement should be inclusive. That is to say, it should cover all the aspects of the task or the question asked of you.
3. The content of your thesis statement shouldn't be different from what you write later in your paper.
4. Your thesis statement should also be contestable and debatable. This means that the statement should be something that many people can disagree.
5. Make sure that your thesis statement is clear and understandable.
6. It is preferable **not to** use the following words in your thesis statement: **Maybe, perhaps, might, I, you, we, never, none, everything, all, always.**

**Task 1:** Should government impose restrictions on what kinds of foods can be served in school cafeterias?

**Example of a thesis statement:** Government should impose restrictions on foods in university cafeterias to comply with food safety standards.

**Task 2:** Discuss the positive and negative aspects of the Internet.

**Example of a bad thesis statement:** The internet is an effective way to communicate with people from around the world, without time and space limitations.

**Example of a good thesis statement:** While the Internet provides unlimited time and space communication possibilities with people, it also limits the real life communication.

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<sup>1</sup> SlideShare (February 2013). Writing thesis statements. Retrieved 08.09.13, from [http://www.slideshare.net/mr\\_rodriguez23/thesis-identifying-activity](http://www.slideshare.net/mr_rodriguez23/thesis-identifying-activity)