Witness Statements: Sample Thesis Statements

Goals of a thesis statement

- Introduce the argument that you will be presenting in your paper (claim) AND why you believe that argument to be correct (compass).
- Allows the reader to be on the lookout for important points in your paper as they read over the paper.
- States your character's opinion on Golding's guilt or innocence.

Common problems with your thesis statements

- Argument (claim) introduced, but no reason given for why your argument is correct (compass).
- No opinion on Golding's innocence of guilt is given.

**Thesis Statement #1:** I believe that humans are created good, and with free will. They either become evil by choice, or by corruption from society and temptation. Therefore, Golding should be found guilty.

**Thesis Statement #2:** Through all these events, I believe that humans are not innately evil, and that people are nurtured to their goodness, or badness because given all the things I've been through, I think that people want to do good, and sometimes they don't know better than to be violent because that is what they have been shown and taught their whole life. This is why I believe that Golding should be found guilty.

**Thesis Statement #3:** I support the nurture, or the plaintiff side of the argument, because I was raised into a corrupt world of take action or suffer consequences. A lot of the actions I have taken are because of the situations I am placed in. The politics I believe in took a large toll on the actions I have made, and also how I was raised through my lifetime. Considering the context of country, my people, and the need for the prosperity of Iraq have forced the actions I have taken, and none are based on evil itself. Therefore, Golding should be found guilty.

**Thesis Statement #4:** Humans are born evil, and aggressive. We have no control over what is part of us. Because we as humans are evil, Golding should be found innocent of the charges before him today.

Thesis Statement #5:I believe that humans are naturally born evil and aggressive because when

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someone is at the last point of survival they will do anything to save themselves. For this reason, William Golding should be found innocent for the charge that he is facing today.

**Thesis Statement #6:** My life experiences may not be bad, but from watching animals that are the closest relatives to humans, I believe that humans are in fact, innately violent creatures. Because of this belief, Golding should be found innocent.

**Thesis Statement #7:** I believe that humans are taught to be evil and aggressive; therefore I support the nurture side and believe that Golding should be found guilty. Humans are by nature good or in some case nothing and violence occurs because of the influences on a person's life.

**Thesis Statement #8:** My ideas on human nature are based on the "tabula rasa" theory. This theory states that each person is born a "blank slate" and this slate is filled with life's many experiences, circumstances, and encounters, creating a unique and complex individual. Because of this belief, Golding should be found guilty for his libelous beliefs about human nature.