

Names: _____

Writing a Thesis Statement

Part I: Describe Your Topic

1. Answer the following questions about your topic.

You will be using this information to write your thesis.

There **are** answers to each of these questions. If you can't find the answers, you need to narrow down your topic.

- a. Who was involved?

- b. What was the conflict?

- c. What was the compromise?

- d. Where did the action take place?

- e. When did the action occur?

- f. Why did the action occur?

- g. How did the action impact the world in the short-term?

- h. How did the action impact the world in the long-term?

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Part II: Write Your Thesis Statement

Make sure to include the theme (Conflict and Compromise in History) and include your answers to the questions on the other side in your thesis. A historical thesis can (and most of the time should) be more than one sentence.

Make sure that your final thesis statement is an argument that can be backed up by the research that you have completed. Leave small details out, as the details will be on your project anyway.

Example from last year's theme:

Through conducting the Underground Railroad in the latter part of the 19th century, Harriet Tubman helped many African Americans escape their lives of slavery in the American South. Tubman's efforts to help runaway slaves reach freedom were fraught with difficulty but eventually paid off for the hundreds of slaves that she brought to freedom.

Write your thesis below.

Your thesis is *not set in stone*. You can change the thesis whenever necessary.

Part III: Rethink Your Title

Now that you have written your thesis statement, rethink your title.

Bad title: "Harriet Tubman"

Good title: "Harriet Tubman: Leading Runaway Slaves to Freedom on the Underground Railroad"

What is your project title? Write your title below.
