

Name _____ Period _____

What is a **THESIS STATEMENT** anyways?

What do **YOU** think a thesis statement is? WITHOUT LOOKING BELOW, write your guess:

Here's what a thesis statement really is:

- A thesis statement is a single sentence that states what you want your readers to know, believe, or understand after having read your essay.
- A thesis is the **MAIN** point that you want to make in your paper, the argument of which you are trying to convince your readers.
- The thesis statement is that sentence in your text that contains the **FOCUS** of your essay and tells your readers what the essay is going to be about.
- The thesis statement is **NOT** a question.
 - Your thesis statement will be the **ANSWER** to the question you are researching. The answer that you will **DEFEND** and **EXPLAIN** in your essay.
- The thesis should be something that can be **PROVEN** by introducing evidence from your sources in the body of your essay.

Example:

Question: Does a teenager's diet affect their school performance?

Thesis statement: A poor diet can cause students to lose focus in the classroom.

