

# Writing a Thesis Statement

## Starting an Essay with Clear Direction

[info@time4writing.com](mailto:info@time4writing.com)

# What a Thesis Statement Does

- 1) It describes your **topic**, what your essay will be about.
- 2) It introduces a specific **claim** you are making about your topic.
- 3) It describes three ways in which you will **support** and develop your claim.

**Subject**

**+**

**Claim**

**+**

**Three Points of Support**

## Example:

"Going back to college was a complex process that involved researching a school, applying for admission, and enrolling in classes."

*Can you find the **three different components** in this thesis statement?*

## Let's look at them this way:

"Going back to college was a complex process that involved researching a school, applying for admission, and enrolling in classes."

*1.subject or topic*

*2.claim*

*3.three points of support*

# 1) The Subject or Topic of the Essay:

"Going back to college..."

The essay is about **going back to college**.

But there is a lot to say on this subject, so now you have to **narrow it down to one specific claim**.

## 2) The Claim Made About the Subject or Topic of the Essay:

"Going back to college was a complex process..."

The topic is narrowed down to **the complexity** of going back to college.

### 3) Three Points of Support for the Claim:

"...a complex process that involved researching a school, applying for admission and enrolling in classes."

**Three reasons** going back to college is complex:

- 1) you need to research a school
- 2) you need to apply for admission
- 3) you need to enroll in classes



# Supporting your Claim:

Your thesis statement comes in your introductory paragraph

Devote at least one paragraph for each supporting point.

Followed by the concluding paragraph, summarizing how these points prove your claim.