



THESIS STATEMENTS

- 1. Must be debatable (you want to persuade the audience)**
 - 2. Claims must be supported by evidence (research)**
 - 3. Clearly indicates what the writer will be discussing in the paper**
 - 4. Establishes a direction for the essay**
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EFFECTIVE THESIS STATEMENT ELEMENTS

- 1. Title of the book**
 - 2. Author of the book**
 - 3. Literary elements/devices (optional but helpful)**
 - 4. application of literary theory in analytical phrase (do NOT state theory, it should reveal itself through analysis)**
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PUT THESE THESIS STATEMENTS IN ORDER FROM WEAKEST TO STRONGEST....

“William’s use of characterization and symbols drives the central conflict of A Streetcar Named Desire and defines the changing dynamics of the relationships in the Kowalski home which is a commentary on gender roles”

“William uses characterization and symbols in A Streetcar Named Desire.”

”William shows conflict in relationships through the use of symbols and characterization.”



HELPFUL HINTS (don't forget author and title)

Through the author's use of _____ a character realizes _____ and (does / becomes / changes / learns) _____ .

The author (creates/writes/uses) _____
(character/metaphor/analogy/motif/image) to illustrate _____ about the
(theme/message) of the novel.

SOME GOOD LIT ELEMENTS TO USE:

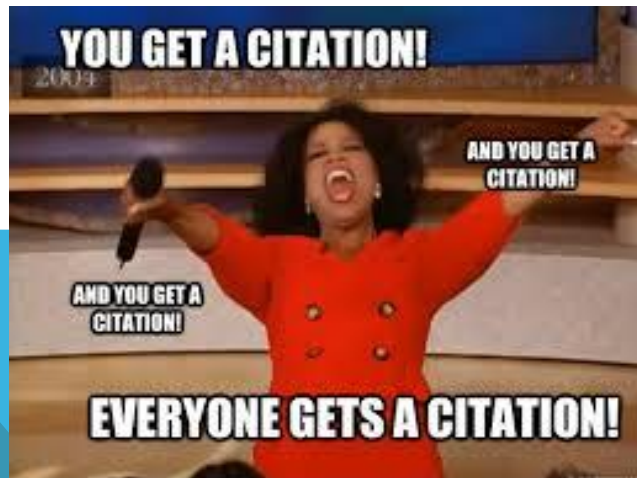
characterization (direct, indirect), character type (dynamic, static, etc.), setting, symbolism, imagery, etc.



PRE-RESEARCH...

1. Write down a few ideas that you would like to include in your paper regarding the literary theory you chose
2. Start your research based on what you THINK your thesis will be
3. Then develop the thesis based on what you find

YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE CITATION PER BODY PARAGRAPH!



WHERE TO FIND RESEARCH?

1. ALJ DATABASES



YES, ONLY ONE PLACE.

Databases that will be useful:

- 1. Ebsco MasterFile (START HERE FOR A BROADER SEARCH..THEN NARROW IT DOWN) -> Literary Reference Center**
- 2. Facts On File -> Bloom's Literature**
- 3. Literature Resource Center**

You will need the passwords when you use these sites off campus



KEYWORDS

When searching your topic don't just type in a question...

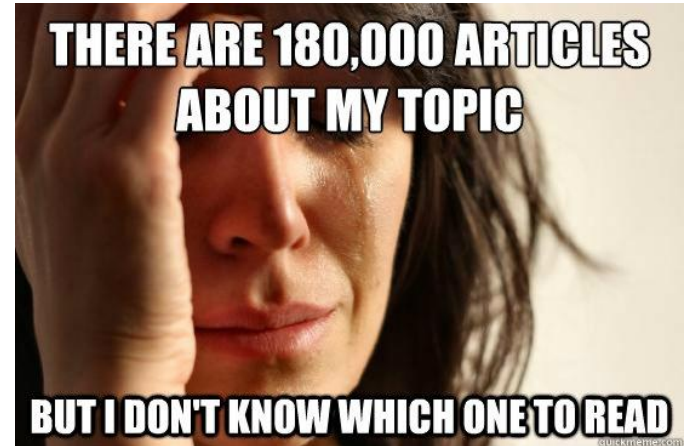
Use search terms and keywords

If you can't find your book- search just your AUTHOR!

Examples:

Holden Caulfield AND depression

J.D Salinger AND gender



Think of three keywords that you can use for your search and write them down

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Do not use quotation marks around work that has been paraphrased.

Use quotation marks around direct quotes under four typed lines and integrate it into a double spaced paragraph using transitions.

Do not use quotation marks for a direct quote more than four typed lines. Instead, double indent and single space the entire quote and integrate into the paragraph.

When citing from a periodical or book, use the author's last name (or first word on the Works Cited page) and the page number: (Walker 115).

When citing from an electronic internet source, use the author's last name only (Hacker). If your source does not have an author, use the first word in the entry on the Works Cited page or an abbreviated title and a page number, if a bound material: (MLA 204).

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

WORKS CITED

The basic form for a book citation is:

Last Name, First Name. Title of Book. Publisher, Publication Date.

Database:

Author. Title. Title of the container. Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher's name, Date of publication, Location.



EXAMPLES...

Book

Author Title of Source Publisher Pub. Date
Ishiguro, Kazuo. *The Remains of the Day*. Faber, 1989.

Full-text Article, Retrieved from an Online Database

Author Title of Source
Reider, Noriko T. "The Appeal of Kaidan Tales of the Strange."
Title of Container (1) Number Pub. Date Location
Asian Folklore Studies, vol. 59, no. 2, 2000, pp. 265-83.
Title of Container (2) Location
Academic Search Premier, search.proquest.com/docview/
Location O.E: Date of Access
224527484?accountid=14244. Accessed 7 Oct. 2016.

Article from an Online Scholarly Journal

Author Title of Source
Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema."
Title of Container (1) Number Publication Date
Postmodern Culture, vol. 10, no. 3, May 2000.
Title of Container (2) Location
Project Muse, doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021.

WHAT ARE CONTAINERS?

Containers are the elements that “hold the source”

Stranger Things- container 1

Netflix- Container 2

Bloom’s Literature- container 1

Facts on File- Container 2



DO NOT FORGET

1. **CITATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE DATABASE!**
2. **ALWAYS REMEMBER TO E-MAIL YOURSELF ARTICLES WHEN YOU FIND THEM SO YOU CAN GO BACK**
3. **USE SEARCH KEYWORDS TO FIND BETTER RESULTS**
4. **GET DATABASE PASSWORDS!**
5. **PURDUE OWL IS A GOOD MLA GUIDE**
6. **YOU CAN USE YOUR ACTIVITY PERIOD TO DO THIS!**

