



Name: _____

Date: _____

THESIS STRENGTHENING PRACTICE

Trying to write a strong thesis? Have no fear! This guide is here to help. The best thesis statements take time and revision so practice with the samples below.

- ✓ **It's a roadmap.** Tell your reader what you will show them in your project.

"The treaty was an attempt to compromise over the land, yet caused more conflict between both sides decades later when multiple clauses were broken."

What could be improved? How would you make this more of a road map?

- ✓ **Make an argument.** Try to convince your audience to view the historical event the way you think it should be. People may argue with you, but that's a good thing! Develop an argument that you can back up in your project.

"Endangered species are animals that are dying off the planet. Some people think it is because of man-made pollution that is hurting the environment."

What could be improved? How would you make this into an argument?

- ✓ **Answer: "so what?"** Inform the reader why he/she should care about this topic.

"After World War II, the Soviet Union placed nuclear missiles and Cuba as a show of strength and to challenge the United States. President John F. Kennedy and leader Nikita Khrushchev resolved this Cuban Missile Crisis, yet tensions over communism continued to fuel the Cold War."

What could be improved? How would you answer the "so what?"

- ✓ **Bring in the theme.** Show your audience that you have thought about the theme and how it connects to your topic. (*Sample theme: Leadership & Legacy in History*)

"Mahatma Gandhi's efforts in during the 1930 Salt March to protest the high tax of salt, and overall British rule, influenced India's Independence in 1947. He continues to be a symbol of how nonviolent protests and persistence can make a difference."

What could be improved? How would you bring in the "Leadership & Legacy" theme?

The theme is: _____

POTENTIAL THESIS STATEMENT	ROADMAP?	ARGUMENT?	SO WHAT?	THEME?