

# **Introductions - Thesis Statements**

Time: 60 minutes
Level: \*\*\*\*\*[B1/B2/C1]

#### **Lesson Plan**

Aim: to develop the students' ability to write an academic introduction - specifically Thesis Statements. The lesson shows different writing structures for thesis statements using linking words (however, although, despite,)

#### 1.Lead in

- Ask Students to discuss what should be included in an introduction.
- Explain that usually it should have four parts / sections
- Try to elicit the four sections

Introduction #1: [give out handout introduction overview] - ask students to read the introduction model and see how the four sections are structured. Highlight how the thesis links to the question, provides the key sections of the essay and provides a stance.

Thesis Statements #2: students read through the different structures and 'notice' the key changes in structure.

Extra: Thesis generator by The University of Arizona. Students go to webpage and try the thesis generator. https://awc.ashford.edu/thesis-generator

Thesis statements Task #3: students look at the introductions and write the thesis to each one using one of the writing structures from Thesis Statements #2. Give out model / example answers to compare or read.

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<sup>\*</sup>Students may not understand 'thesis statement' and this can be explained by suggesting it is your opinion and the key sections / topics to be discussed.



## Introduction - Thesis Statements #1

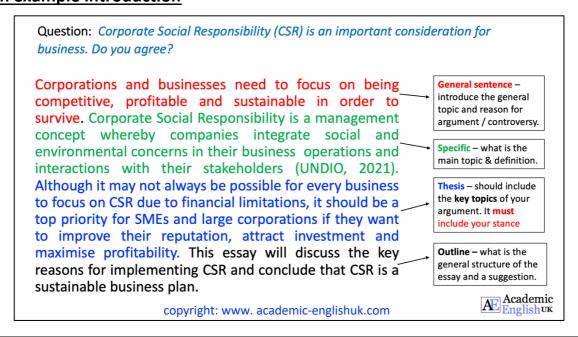
#### What is a thesis statement?

- A thesis is the main idea of your essay and includes your stance (opinion).
- A good thesis statement will **direct** the structure of your essay and will allow the reader to **understand** the ideas to be discussed within your paper.
- A thesis is usually stated in the **opening paragraphs** of a paper, most often in the **last** sentences of the introduction.
- Overall, a thesis should include the words from the essay **question** (if given one), the **key topics** in the main body of the essay and your **stance** (opinion).

Introductions usually follow this basic structure. It is really important to tell the reader your stance (thesis statement) and structure of the essay.

1	<b>General sentence</b> – introduce the general topic / background and reason for the argument / controversy.
2	<b>Specific</b> – what is the main topic / information based on this topic / definition (if applicable).
3	Thesis – should include the key topics of your argument. It must include your stance / opinion (to what extent you agree).
4	Outline – what is the general structure of the essay and a possible suggestion.

## An example introduction







## Thesis statements on CSR #2

Should include:				
The question words				
Your stance (yes or no / to what extent)				
Key topics of your argument / counter argument				

**Question:** Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is an important consideration for business. Do you agree?

**Thesis statement** (Although). Although it may not always be possible for every business to focus on CSR due to financial limitations, it should be a top priority for SMEs and large corporations if they want to improve their reputation, attract investment and maximise profitability.

Thesis statement (Howeve	r): It may	VVVVVVVVVVVVVVV	VVVVVVVVVVVVVV	on or	n CSR due to
mesis statement (nowever			au CNAFa au al la		
		a top priority f	or SiviEs and la		-
want to improve their repu	tation,	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	profitabilit	ty.
	_				
Thesis statement (Despite)	: Despite			to fo	ocus on CSR
due to	should be a	top priority for	SMEs and larg	ge corporat	ions if they
want to improve their repu	tation,	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	0000000000	profitabi	lity.
·	,				,
Thesis + outline combined					
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	the three k	key elements	0000000000	000000000	00000000X
attracts investment and m	naximises pro	fitability. It wil	I argue that t	hese factor	s are a top
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	00000000 w	ant to remain	00000000000	000000000	sustainable
business plan. The essay v	will also high	light that it m	ay not always	be possibl	e for every
husinoss	VVVVVVVVV	Maritat	ions	*	-

## **University of Arizona Thesis generator**

Try this online thesis generator: Go to the web address below and follow the steps to formulate an argumentative thesis statement.

Web link: <a href="https://awc.ashford.edu/thesis-generator">https://awc.ashford.edu/thesis-generator</a>





## Thesis Statements Task #3:

Write the thesis statement (include the question and the main topic in the essay)

## Practice 1: A university education is not worth the cost. To what extent do you agree?

University on average			e college st	udents goi	ng on	XXXXXXX	llar for yo	XXXXXXX	fees
over	0000000	XXXXX \	worth of	_				e grauua	
Practice 2:	Mobile p	hones ar	e a health :	risk. To wh	at exter	nt do yo	u agree?		
Mobile ph	one usage	has inc	reased 67%		XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX		very five
lives much	more cor	nvenient	with an in	y, 2016). ( stant	Doviousi	y, mobi	ie priorie:		Internet.
Practice 3:	Climate C	hange is	a result of	human ac	tivities.	To wha	t extent (	do you a	gree?
Temperatu	ıres on ea	rth have	increased		XXXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	_	ıry. Over
methane	(CH4)	have	notably	greenhous increased		such as	carbon (	dioxide (	00000001
								<del>_</del>	



# **Example answers:**

# A university education is not worth the cost. To what extent do you agree?

University education		incred	ibly populai	r for your	ng people	with
on average one in eve	ery three college students go	ing on	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			fees
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	costs becoming	g higher	, most stud	ents are g	raduating	with
over	worth of debt. Althou	ıgh, it	seems that	such an	investme	nt is
important to gain a grevidence that shows	ood career, recent research	sugges	ts the oppo	site. Ther	e is signif	icant

ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...

