Thesis Statement Practice

Directions: Carefully read the writing prompt and the Bad Thesis Statement. Then, rewrite a Good Thesis Statement. State the subject and tell the author’s purpose for writing or the point to be proved. A good thesis statement will directly respond to each part of the writing prompt.

Writing Prompt: Describe how television commercials influence children.

Bad: Television commercials have an influence on children.

Good: ___________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

Writing Prompt: Explain why young people especially enjoy hobbies.

Bad: One hobby many young people especially enjoy is reading.

Good: ___________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

Writing Prompt: Discuss the benefits of playing team sports.

Bad: Playing team sports has many benefits.

Good: ___________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________
Thesis Statement Practice
Name ________________________

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WritingPrompt: Compare and contrast the plot of a book and a movie made from the same book.

Bad: The book, *The Great Hornspoon*, is both similar to and different than the movie.

Good: _____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

WritingPrompt: Analyze what President Kennedy meant when he said, “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”

Bad: President Kennedy meant many things when he said, “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”

Good: _____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________
Thesis Statement Practice

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Writing Prompt: Persuade the school board to lengthen summer vacation.

Bad: Many people think that summer vacation should be extended.

Good: _____________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Writing Prompt: Justify the government’s duty to collect taxes.

Bad: The government has a duty to collect taxes.

Good: _____________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Writing Prompt: Evaluate this statement—“Everyone should learn to play a musical instrument.”

Bad: Learning to play a musical instrument has both good and bad points.

Good: _____________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________