

## Thesis Statement Worksheet #8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

A good thesis statement will state the writing topic and key words of the writing prompt. For an **argumentative essay**, the thesis statement states the claim(s) of the essay and may include a preview of the main ideas found in the upcoming topic sentences. Usually place the thesis statement at the end of the introductory paragraph.

**Directions:** Read the definition of the **Writing Direction Word** and the **Writing Prompt**. Dissect the **Writing Prompt** with the **WHO, WHAT, HOW, DO** strategy. **WHO:** Underline any words which identify the audience or the role of the writer. **WHAT:** Circle any words which identify the topic, context, or purpose of the writing task. **HOW:** Bracket any words which identify the writing format or the resources to use. **DO:** Box any words which identify key writing direction words. Study the **Poor Thesis Statement** and the **Teacher Response**. **Revise or Replace** with your own thesis statement.

**Writing Direction Word: Evaluate** means to make a judgment after careful observation.

**Writing Prompt:** In her article titled “Children and the Arts,” Doctor Amanda Jones argues that music helps children develop creativity and discipline. Evaluate the author’s statement that “...everyone should learn to play a musical instrument” in your multi-media presentation.

### Question to Be Answered

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**Poor Thesis Statement:** Learning to play a musical instrument has benefits for everyone, but not everyone should learn to play a musical instrument.

**Teacher Response:** This thesis statement includes a split (divided) focus. A split thesis includes two purposes or two points of view. Focus on only one purpose or point of view throughout the essay. It may be necessary to reference or refute another purpose or point of view in the body paragraphs or conclusion.

### Revise or Replace

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