**Thesis Statement Worksheet #2**     **Name** _____

A good thesis statement will state the writing topic and key words of the writing prompt. For an **informational/explanatory essay**, the thesis statement states the specific purpose of the essay and may include a preview of the main ideas found in the upcoming topic sentences. The thesis statement serves as the controlling idea throughout the essay; no additional topics may be included in the body paragraphs which do not respond to the thesis statement. 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: Examine** means to inspect the details closely and test according to a standard.

**Writing Prompt:** Global warming has been a contentious issue. Although all agree that the earth is warming, some say that the cause is human interference in nature. Others say that the cause is due to natural warming and cooling cycles. Examine the evidence for both causes of global warming.

**Question to Be Answered**

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**Poor Thesis Statement:** The earth is actually getting cooler and a new Ice Age may be on the not-too-distant horizon.

**Teacher Response:** This thesis statement does not respond to the writing prompt. Re-read the writing prompt and dissect according to the WHO (the audience and role of the writer), the WHAT (the context of the writing topic), the HOW (the resource text title and author), and the DO (the key writing direction word).

**Revise or Replace**

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