

Thesis Statement Worksheet #13

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: **Argue** means to prove an opinion or theory to be correct or true.

Writing Prompt: The author of our history textbook said that “American colonists believed that England did not have a right to tax them” (Long 98). However, the colonists did receive many benefits from England, such as military protection and road construction. Prepare a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses to argue why some taxes are necessary.

Question to Be Answered

Poor Thesis Statement: Taxes are both positive and negative.

Teacher Response: This thesis statement does not state your specific point of view. Dissect the writing prompt, focusing on to the WHO (the audience and role of the writer), the HOW (the resource text title and author), and the DO (the key writing direction word) to clearly state your specific point of view.

Revise or Replace
