

## Thesis Statements

The thesis statement is usually the last part of your first paragraph (or the general introduction). This statement is what your paper will work to prove or evaluate. The remainder of your paper will be focused on this statement, so it should allow for you to write enough content to fulfill your requirement.

*Example Thesis A: The fall of the Ottoman Empire occurred as a result of decades of actions leading to its demise.*

*Example Thesis B: The internet has contributed to the growth of the world economy expanding the reach of local, national, and international markets.*

Strong thesis statements are specific enough that they outline what the paper will be about. There are different forms that you can use to develop a thesis statement: a main topic, or a main topic and sub parts.

- *Thesis A above is an example of a main topic by itself.*
- *Thesis B is an example of a main topic and sub parts.*

Weak thesis statements are too broad or general. Examples of weak thesis statements are below:

*Weak Thesis A: The fall of the Ottoman Empire was bad.*

*How to improve: The fall of the Ottoman Empire had a negative effect on the other countries in the region.*

*Weak Thesis B: The internet has been very useful for the economy.*

*How to improve: The internet has been useful for the improvement of the US economy because of its ability to expand the commerce and spur entrepreneurship.*