Thesis Statement Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is a “thesis statement”? **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Tips for a successful Thesis:

**Do:**

1. Subject + your attitude (opinion)= thesis
2. Your thesis should argue a position that you can support
3. Your thesis should be an opinion statement-that must be proven
4. Write a thesis that is arguable
5. Be specific-focus on one accomplishment or legacy-don’t cover them all
6. Use effective academic language
7. Try and reduce it to one sentence
8. Think of your thesis as a sales pitch. Sell your ideas as being an important component to the reader’s understanding of the subject.
9. Place your thesis at the end of your introductory paragraph.

**Do not:**

1. Use vague language or overused words
2. Have a thesis statement that is too broad, too general, or tries to cover too much
3. Focus on more than one topic or issue
4. Phrase your thesis as a question
5. Use phrases such as “I think,” “I feel,” or” in my opinion.”
6. Just state a fact

**Samples:**

**NOT good-** Social science is the best class (too general). Social science class is 50 minutes long (fact).

**Better-** Of all the classes at South Lake Middle School Social science is the most interesting.

**NOT good-** Martin Luther was an important church reformer (too general). Why is Martin Luther an important person (too general and a question)?

**Better-** Martin Luther is a significant historical figure because today over 540 Million people worship in churches inspired by his reformation.

**NOT good-** Jackie Robinson was an important baseball player because he was African American.

**Better** Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier for Major League Baseball; Professional baseball became much more accessible for other African Americans and minorities

**“Vocabulary BANK”**

**As you construct your THESIS use some of these key words from the focus questions**

*Influence impact inspired discovery significant accomplishment legacy advances political economic social historic movement propel new theories promote global effect/affect transformed revolutionized impacted altered*

**As you create your thesis follow this model:**

What was it like before your person **+** one specific accomplishment (idea, invention, etc.) **=** change in history

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1. Write a thesis statement for your research essay.

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*For teacher* ***ok****- go to the graphic organizer /* ***not okay****-go to #2*

1. Write a thesis statement for your research essay.

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*For teacher* ***ok****- go to the graphic organizer /* ***not okay****-go to #3*

1. Write a thesis statement for your research essay.

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*For teacher* ***ok****- go to the graphic organizer /* ***not okay****-get a stamp and go to tutorial*