

**Thesis Statement Practice**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Carefully read the writing prompt and the *Bad* Thesis Statement. Then, rewrite a *Good* Thesis Statement. State the subject and tell the author’s purpose for writing or the point to be proved. A good thesis statement will directly respond to each part of the writing prompt.

**Writing Prompt: Describe how television commercials influence children.**

*Bad:* Television commercials have an influence on children.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt: Explain why young people especially enjoy hobbies.**

*Bad:* One hobby many young people especially enjoy is reading.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt: Discuss the benefits of playing team sports.**

*Bad:* Playing team sports has many benefits.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Writing Prompt: Compare and contrast the plot of a book and a movie made from the same book.**

*Bad:* The book, *The Great Hornspoon*, is both similar to and different than the movie.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt: Analyze what President Kennedy meant when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."**

*Bad:* President Kennedy meant many things when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Writing Prompt: Persuade the school board to lengthen summer vacation.**

*Bad:* Many people think that summer vacation should be extended.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt: Justify the government’s duty to collect taxes.**

*Bad:* The government has a duty to collect taxes.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Writing Prompt: Evaluate this statement—“Everyone should learn to play a musical instrument.”**

*Bad:* Learning to play a musical instrument has both good and bad points.

*Good:* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_