

## Identifying Strong (Good) Vs Weak (Bad) Thesis Statements

Read each set of thesis statements and use the Thesis Test to determine which thesis statement in each set is the strongest. State specific reasons why you make such choices.

1      A. I think being a chef would be a cool job.

B. Although both chefs and cooks can prepare fine meals, chefs differ from cooks in education, professional commitment, and artistry.

Reasons:

2      A. A first water rafting experience can challenge the body and spirit and transform an adolescent into an adult.

B. White water rafting is a type of sport that is beneficial in many ways.

Reasons:

3      A. Some American men have difficulties in relationship due to the way they are raised.

B. Our American family structure encourages men to repress their true feelings, leaving them open to physical, psychological, and relationship difficulties.

Reasons:

4      A. Steroid abuse is one of the most common forms of drugs abuse among American athletes.

B. Steroids, including those that are legally available, should be banned from sports because of their numerous negative side effects.

Reasons:

5      A. Hip hop is the best thing that has happened to music in the past twenty years.

B. Though many people dismiss hip hop as offensive, hip hop music offers urban youth an important opportunity for artistic expression and allows them to articulate the poetry of the street.

Reasons:

6      A. Many people object to today's violent horror movies.

B. Despite their high-tech special effects, today's graphically violent horror movies do not convey the creative use of cinematography or the emotional impact that we saw in the classic horror films of the 1940s and 50s.

Reasons:

7      A. Companies need to exploit the marketing potential of the Internet, and Web pages can provide both advertising and customer support.

B. Because the Internet is filled with tremendous marketing potential, companies should exploit this potential by using Web pages that offer both advertising and customer support.

Reasons:

8      A. Because half of all American elementary school children consume nine times the recommended daily allowance of sugar, schools should be required to replace the beverages in soda machines with healthy alternatives.

B. Experts estimate that half of elementary school children consume nine times the recommended daily allowance of sugar

Reasons:

9      A. There are some negative and positive aspects to the Banana Herb Tea Supplement.

loss      B. Because Banana Herb Tea Supplement promotes rapid weight loss that results in the loss of muscle and lean body mass, it poses a potential danger to customers.

Reasons:

**The following two thesis statements are weak. Using your new knowledge of effective thesis statements, try to revise them so that they meet basic criteria.**

10. The thesis of this paper is about the difficulty of solving our environmental problems.

11. The aim of this paper is to explain why there is a high drop out rate for colleges today.