**Writing a Thesis Statement**

A **thesis statement** defines the purpose of your essay. Your essay must be controlled by a single main idea or thesis. Your thesis needs to arguable and contain your topic. A thesis statement is clear, concise, and presents an appropriate view of your topic.

The purpose of a thesis statement is to:

1. narrow your topic to a single, arguable idea
2. tell something about your topic, tell your purpose for writing and tell your opinion
3. assist in the arrangement of the paper

While trying to draft a thesis, ask yourself these questions:

1. Does it state an opinion about my topic?
2. Does it convey my purpose and my opinion?
3. Is it limited to only one idea?

Your thesis statement will be the last sentence in your introductory paragraph.