

**LESSON 21**  
**PRACTICE WORKSHEET A**

## Writing a Thesis Statement

**Directions:** Circle the letter of the *best* thesis statement for each composition.

**1. a composition about the importance of eating lunch**

- a. Lunch is one of my favorite meals, delicious and nutritious.
- b. Eating lunch boosts health and provides needed afternoon energy.
- c. If you skip lunch, you'll regret it all day long.

**2. a composition about the effect of visitors on the country's national parks**

- a. The growing number of visitors to our national parks is beginning to cause problems with traffic, noise, and pollution.
- b. More people are visiting national parks like Yellowstone, Arches, and Canyonlands each and every year.
- c. When you visit one of the country's national parks, never leave trash behind.

**3. a persuasive essay arguing in favor of building a community sports center**

- a. Sports centers are great. We need to build a new one for this neighborhood.
- b. Building a new sports center, why not? I don't think it's a bad idea.
- c. Building a new sports center would give kids a place to play, gain new skills, and help keep them out of trouble.

**4. a composition comparing portable CD players with portable MP3 players**

- a. Although both devices let you hear music on the go, there are important differences between CD players and MP3 players.
- b. It will cost you about the same amount of money to buy an MP3 player as it would to buy a CD player.
- c. MP3 players are better than CD players.

**B. Directions:** Read the outline and write a thesis statement.

Topic: Young people should pay attention to politics.

- A. Young people are intelligent enough to understand what's going on.
- B. Politics affects everyone's lives, including young people's.
- C. Paying attention to politics now will help young people to be informed citizens when they are old enough to vote.

**5. Thesis statement:**

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## Writing a Thesis Statement (Lesson 21 – Practice Worksheet B)

**Directions:** Read each outline for a composition. Then write an appropriate thesis statement on the lines for the composition described.

### 1. a composition that discusses the responsibilities involved in caring for a pet.

Topic: What pet ownership involves.

- A. It takes a lot of time to care for a pet.
- B. Pet ownership can be expensive.
- C. When you get a pet, you commit yourself to taking care of it for life.

Thesis statement:

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### 2. an essay in favor of a proposal to increase recycling programs in your town

Topic: Proposal to increase recycling programs.

- A. The town can save money by recycling more.
- B. Recycling helps saves energy.
- C. Recycling is good for the environment.

Thesis statement:

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### 3. a research paper on the damage earthquakes can cause

Topic: Earthquake damage.

- A. Earthquakes can be incredibly powerful natural events.
- B. Whole cities have been destroyed in earthquakes.
- C. Some earthquakes have caused millions of dollars of damage.

Thesis statement:

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