



# The Thesis Sentence

A thesis sentence is the main topic sentence of an essay. It states the argument in a piece of persuasive writing, and often gives an indication what the main sections of the essay will be, and how the argument will unfold. The thesis sentence usually comes at the end of the introduction.

**SAMPLE TOPIC:** Vaccinations

**SAMPLE THESIS SENTENCE:** Vaccinations, which are critical to the control and eradication of deadly infectious diseases, should be mandatory, without exception, for every student in the U.S. who wants to attend school.

**DIRECTIONS:** On a separate page, write a thesis sentence to go with each topic below.

1. Discuss whether government surveillance programs do more harm than good. Are they a violation of civil liberties?
2. Should individuals be financially compensated when they register to be organ donors?
3. Are students becoming too dependent on technology? Should computers, tablets, and cell phones be banned from the classroom?
4. Over half of American marriages end in divorce. Should mainstream media change the way that it depicts the traditional family unit, to incorporate divorce and second marriages?