**Activity: Topic versus Thesis Statement**

When you have chosen your topic, or general area, you need to narrow it down so that you have a thesis statement. For example if the topic is “Gay marriage”, then the statement could be “Gay marriage should be legalised in Hong Kong”.

Try to make it specific to one country/place or one type of problem, eg “The Hong Kong Government should introduce new legislation to reduce air pollution in the next 5 years”, is more focused than “The Hong Kong Government should help to reduce pollution”.

Notice we often use modal verbs like ‘should/ should not, must/ mustn’t, ought (not) to” for argumentative topics.

Now write a good argumentative essay title for these topics:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title/Thesis | Tiger moms |
| Scope |  |
|  | |
| **Title/Thesis** | **Nuclear power should be banned around the world,**  **The US should continue building power plants** |
| **Scope** | **because firstly it is dangerous to people and secondly it harms the environment**  **because firstly it is cheaper and more effective at producing power and secondly it’s clean/renewable** |
|  | |
| Title/Thesis | Uber |
| Scope |  |
|  | |
| Title/Thesis |  |
| Scope |  |
|  | |

Topic (nuclear power)

Opinion (support or not)

Scope (2/3 reasons why)