

# Thesis

## Thesis Definition

A thesis is a statement in a non-[fiction](#) or a fiction work that a writer intends to support and prove. One can find examples of thesis statement at the beginning of literary pieces. These thesis statements are of utmost importance, as they provide clear indicators as to which direction the writer will follow in their work.

A thesis statement is carefully crafted by a writer, and is marked by vigilant selection of words that will never miss its target. Generally, such a statement shows up in the first paragraph, or what is called an introduction. Despite writers' efforts to prove their thesis statements, not all of these statements can be verified for their exactness. Nevertheless, they do develop an [argument](#).

## Importance of a Thesis Statement

In writing an [essay](#), a thesis statement determines the worth of the essay by its capacity to stay focused on its thesis statement. For instance, if a writer fails to clearly mention or define a solid thesis statement in his or her essay, it will be difficult for readers to track the issue the writer plans to discuss and explain. Suppose a writer wants to write an essay on how to make a perfect fruit salad, the quality of his or her writing will exceedingly improve if he or she lets the readers know the subject matter at the start of the essay, for example:

“In this essay, I will tell you how to make the perfect fruit salad. Not only will it be tasty, but also healthy for your body.”

## Narrative Thesis

In a [narrative](#) essay, or narrative section of a piece of literature, a thesis statement is called a “narrative thesis.” A narrative thesis can be an

apparent one or a hidden or implied one. In both cases, such a statement is a powerful, propelling force behind an entire work, that guides it toward its ultimate purpose and the lesson it intends to instruct.

## **Narrative Thesis Examples**

Below is a list of a few narrative thesis examples – opening lines that determine the entire course of the narratives.

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### **Example #1: *Pride and Prejudice* (By Jane Austen)**

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“It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.”

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### **Example #2: *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (By Gabriel García Márquez)**

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“Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice.”

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### **Example #3: *Lolita* (By Vladimir Nabokov)**

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“Lolita, light of my life, fire of my loins.”

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### **Example #4: *Anna Karenina* (By Leo Tolstoy)**

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“Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way.”

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### **Example #5: *1984* (By George Orwell)**

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“It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.”

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**Example #6: *A Tale of Two Cities* (By Charles Dickens)**

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“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.”

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**Example #7: *The Catcher in the Rye* (By J. D. Salinger)**

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“If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you’ll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of crap, but I don’t feel like going into it, if you want to know the truth.”

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**Example #8: *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (By James Joyce)**

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“Once upon a time and a very good time it was there was a moocow coming down along the road and this moocow that was coming down along the road met a nicens little boy named baby tuckoo.”

**Function of Thesis**

The above arguments clearly reveal the function of a thesis statements or a narrative thesis as a driving force behind a literary composition. It guides the narrative toward its ultimate purpose, which is the [moral](#) lesson it aims to inculcate.