

Research Paper Topic Sentence & Thesis Statement Examples

The information below should help you create topic sentences and a working thesis statement for your research paper assignment. For more information on thesis statements, see your assignment handout.

Topic: Year-round schooling

Position: Year-round schooling is beneficial

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. Year-round schools help children learn continuously.
2. Students stay safe and have fun during inter-sessions with a year-round school plan.
3. Year-round schools benefits tax-payers and costs less for families.
4. A love of learning is more likely to occur as a result of year-round schooling.
5. Year-round schooling provides extra remediation opportunities for struggling students.
6. Year-round schooling prepares students for life after school.

Thesis Statement: All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement. Year-round schooling is the only type of school system that can bring the most benefit to all members of a community.

Topic: Global Warming

Position: Global Warming is a serious threat

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. The most respected scientific bodies have stated that global warming is occurring, and people are causing it.
2. Global temperatures are rising at a rapid, unprecedented rate.
3. Computer models verify that CO2 increases will cause significant global warming.
4. Global warming will cause more storms and other weather extremes.
5. The earth's poles are warming; polar ice caps are breaking up and melting and the sea level rising which is proof of global warming.
6. Global warming will have devastating impacts on many economies.
7. Many communities will not be able to adapt to rapid climate change, caused by global warming.

Thesis Statement: All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement. Government funding must be utilized to protect human lives and the environment from the negative effects of global warming.

Topic: Global Warming

Position: Global Warming is a hoax or myth

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. Significant changes in climate have continually occurred throughout geologic time.
2. Data the media and environmentalists have used to prove global warming has been flawed.
3. Changes in Carbon Dioxide levels are neither the cause or the result of global warming.
4. No data indicates that storms and other natural disasters will occur more frequently or more dramatically in the future.

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5. Overall, the earth's poles are not becoming warmer; some areas are actually becoming colder.
6. The expenditure of more than 60 billion dollars on research into global warming since 1990 has failed to demonstrate any human-caused climate trend, let alone a dangerous one.
7. The government invented the concept of global warming in order to tax citizens whose vehicles do not meet certain criteria just as other industries benefit from the creation of government endorsed "green" technology.

Thesis Statement: *All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement.*
Media attention and government research funding for global warming must be ceased immediately as it exists only as a myth of science.

Topic: **Abandoning the minimum wage law in the U.S.**

Position: The minimum wage law should be abandoned in the U.S.

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. The vast majority of economists believe the minimum wage law costs the economy thousands of jobs.
2. Teenagers, workers in training, college students, interns, and part-time workers all have their options and opportunities limited by the minimum wage.
3. Abolishing the minimum wage will allow businesses to achieve greater efficiency and lower prices.
4. Forcing American companies to pay a certain wage increases the likelihood that those companies will outsource jobs to foreign workers, where labor is much cheaper.
5. Cost-of-living differences in various areas of the country make a universal minimum wage difficult to set.
6. Elimination of the minimum wage would mean more citizens and fewer illegal immigrants would be hired for low-pay hourly jobs, leading to greater tax revenues and less incentive for illegal immigration.

Thesis Statement: *All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement.*
For the benefit of American citizens and the economy, the minimum wage law must be abolished.

Topic: **Standardized testing in schools**

Position: Against standardized testing

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. Standardized tests can be biased or unfair to students.
2. Students in failing school districts will be punished by low school-wide test scores.
3. The tests are often written by people with little or no teaching experience.
4. Teachers are forced to teach to the test, thus eliminating creativity and engaging lesson plans from the classroom.
5. Learning material for tests means other, more educational material receives less emphasis.
6. Less than ideal standardized tests scores often prevent highly intelligent, motivated students from acceptance into their top choice colleges.

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Thesis Statement: *All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement.*
Standardized tests are an unfair measure of students' intelligence and academic performance; therefore, the tests must be changed drastically or abandoned.

Topic: **Death penalty/ capital punishment**

Position: The death penalty should be abolished in the United States

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. Financial costs to taxpayers of capital punishment is several times that of keeping someone in prison for life.
2. Execution is barbaric and violates the "cruel and unusual" clause in the Bill of Rights.
3. Life in prison is a worse punishment and a more effective deterrent to crime.
4. The endless appeals and required additional procedures clog our court system.
5. The death penalty sends the wrong message: why kill people who kill people to show killing is wrong.
6. The possibility exists that innocent men and women may be put to death.

Thesis Statement: *All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement.*
The death penalty must be abolished in the United States for its inhumane and ineffective practice.

Topic: **Cyber-bullying**

Position: Cyber-bullying should be a criminal, punishable offense in the United States

Reasons/Support/Topic Sentences for Position:

1. Cyber-bullying affects a staggering number of children and teenagers each year.
2. Due to the high presence of technology in Americans' lives, it is impossible for a victim to escape cyber-bullying.
3. Cyber-bullying can lead to serious health concerns, depression, anxiety, and even suicide.
4. Many young people are afraid to report cyber-bullying, and thus suffer in silence.
5. The majority of cyber-bullies are never punished due to a lack of laws and measures to protect victims.
6. Cyber-bullying is preventable with stricter social networking regulations and adult supervision.

Thesis Statement: *All of the reasons/ topic sentences above must connect to your thesis statement.*
Cyber-bullying should be a criminal, punishable offense in the United States in order to protect the nation's children and teenagers.
