

5 Look at the introductory paragraphs in exercise 3 on page 58. What should the paragraphs in the main body discuss for each thesis statement? Write your ideas and then compare your answers with a partner.

How to develop a thesis statement

One way to develop a thesis statement for an essay is to write opinions you have about the topic. Begin, *I think that ...* and complete the sentence with your opinion. Then remove *I think that ...* and the remaining words make a possible thesis statement.

Topic: diet / food

~~I think that~~ a vegetarian diet is one of the best ways to live a healthy life.

~~I think that~~ governments should restrict the use of chemicals in agriculture and food production.

After you have written several opinion statements, choose the one that would make the best thesis. Remember to decide if the sentence gives a clear opinion, states a fact, or presents two sides without a clear argument.

6 For each of these topics, write two or three opinions you have, starting with *I think that*.

a. exercise

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b. university study

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c. the Internet

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d. music

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