

Useful Language for Thesis Statements

Basic sentence structures:

Identifying something significant to analyze:

In this play, the character of Joseph symbolizes...
This passage illustrates the importance of...
The author sheds light on the crucial point of...
The text highlights the difference between...
In both [text 1] and [text 2], the authors demonstrate the ways in which...

Affirming what you believe:

From my perspective, the idea that...
I believe that...
In my view, the author...
I strongly agree with the argument that...
I disagree with the notion that...

Challenging an author's argument:

The article fails to address...
The author overlooks...
The argument lacks clear evidence about...
The author's point is questionable in that it...

Complex sentence structures:

Linking key background information or evidence to your claim:

Keywords: Based on, As, Through, In + (verb)-ing

Based on the facts concerning the “Molotov” case study, **it is apparent that...**
Based on the analysis of the “Molotov” case study, **I believe that...**
In examining the controversy surrounding artists’ rights, **[author’s name] demonstrates...**
Through the examination of Molotov Man, **[author’s name] identifies...**
In considering the debate over the reproduction of images, copyright law **fails to.../is lacking in that...**
In light of the Molotov Man controversy, **it is useful to reconsider/re-examine...**
As the “Molotov” case study demonstrates, **it is important to...**

Expressing a less obvious claim by challenging commonly held beliefs:

Keywords: While, Although, Though

While it is true that _____, the more significant problem with X is...

Although it may seem that _____, the more significant issue relates to...

Though X seems to suggest that _____, a crucial part of this debate involves...

While I acknowledge that _____, it is necessary to take into account...

While Garnett makes a strong case for the reproduction of Molotov Man, she **fails to address the deeper problem of...**

Providing reasons for your claim:

Keywords: Due to, Because of

Due to unfair restrictions imposed by copyright law, artists struggle to

Due to the fact that copyright law imposes unfair restrictions, artists struggle to...

Because of X, artists often misrepresent historical events in their images.

Artists often misrepresent historical events in their images **because** they...

Given the fact that American soldiers cannot refuse to be photographed in combat, **we recommend...**

Providing multiple reasons for your claim:

Keywords: Both, Due to, Among the reasons, Not only

Both X and Y are reasons why...

Due to both [reason 1] and [reason 2], I consider...

Among the reasons that call Garnett's actions into question **are** her disregard for the cultural value of the image **and** her statements concerning copyright law.

Not only does [reason 1] contribute to the problem of the reproduction of images, **but so does [reason 2].**

The emotional appeal of the painting **together with** the omission of any signs of war **convey** a sense of...