

# Thesis Statement: Common Mistakes Troubleshooting Guide

## 1. Thesis is too broad

- Problem: Covers too many ideas at once.
- Fix: Narrow the topic to one clear argument.

## 2. Thesis is too vague

- Problem: Uses unclear words like “good,” “bad,” or “important.”
- Fix: Replace vague terms with specific claims or reasons.

## 3. Thesis states a fact

- Problem: A fact cannot be argued or analyzed.
- Fix: Turn the fact into an argument or interpretation.

## 4. Thesis lists topics without connecting them

- Problem: Reads like a summary, not a claim.
- Fix: Show the relationship between points and the main idea.

## 5. Thesis is not arguable

- Problem: No one could reasonably disagree.
- Fix: Add a stance that requires defense or evidence.

## 6. Thesis is too long or wordy

- Problem: Includes unnecessary explanation or filler words.
- Fix: Shorten it to one clear, direct sentence.

## 7. Thesis does not match the essay

- Problem: Body paragraphs argue something different.
- Fix: Revise the thesis to align with the essay’s real argument.

## 8. Thesis lacks structure

- Problem: No preview of main points or direction.
- Fix: Add 2–3 supporting points that guide the essay.

## 9. Thesis uses first-person opinion

- Problem: “I think,” “I believe,” “In my opinion.”
- Fix: Remove first person and state the argument confidently.

## 10. Thesis is placed incorrectly

- Problem: Appears too late in the introduction or in the body.
- Fix: Place the thesis as the last sentence of the introduction.