**Thesis Statement Exercises**

For each pair of sentences below, select the one that you think would make the more effective [thesis](https://www.thoughtco.com/thesis-composition-1692546) in the [introductory paragraph](https://www.thoughtco.com/introductory-paragraph-essays-and-reports-1691081) of a short essay (approximately 400 to 600 words). Keep in mind that an effective thesis statement should be sharply [focused](https://www.thoughtco.com/focusing-composition-term-1690800)and [specific](https://www.thoughtco.com/specificity-words-1691983), not just a general statement of fact.

1. (a) *The Hunger Games* is a science fiction adventure film based on the novel of the same name by Suzanne Collins.  
   (b) *The Hunger Games* is a morality tale about the dangers of a political system that is dominated by the wealthy.
2. (a) There is no question that cell phones have changed our lives in a very big way.  
   (b) While cell phones provide freedom and mobility, they can also become a leash, compelling users to answer them anywhere and at any time.
3. (a) Finding a job is never easy, but it can be especially hard when the economy is still feeling the effects of a recession and employers are reluctant to hire new workers.  
   (b) College students looking for part-time work should begin their search by taking advantage of job-finding resources on campus.
4. (a) There are several steps that teachers can take to encourage academic integrity and curtail cheating in their classes.  
   (b) There is an epidemic of cheating in America's schools and colleges, and there are no easy solutions to this problem.
5. (a) J. Robert Oppenheimer, the American physicist who directed the building of the first atomic bombs during World War II, had technical, moral, and political reasons for opposing the development of the hydrogen bomb.  
   (b) J. Robert Oppenheimer, often referred to as "the father of the atomic bomb," was born in New York City in 1904.
6. (a) The iPad has revolutionized the mobile-computing landscape and created a huge profit stream for Apple.  
   (b) The iPad, with its relatively large high-definition screen, has helped to revitalize the comic book industry.
7. (a) Like other addictive behaviors, Internet addiction may have serious negative consequences, including academic failure, job loss, and a breakdown in personal relationships.  
   (b) Drug and alcohol addiction is a major problem in the world today, and many people suffer from it.

References:

https://www.thoughtco.com/exercise-in-identifying-effective-thesis-statements-1692401

Write a Topic Sentence to the following paragraphs:

1. Rebellion is shown in a desire to resist control or authority. For example, in “The Red Lotus of Chastity”, Devasmita was not permitted by father to marry Guhasena. But regardless of that, she purposely ignored the authority of her father and went against his wishes as seen in the following excerpt: “But Devasmita herself, as soon as she had set eyes on Guhasena, was so carried away by his qualities that she decided to desert her parents.” She rebelled against her father’s authority by sailing off with Guhasena that night and becoming his wife. Sharazad in *A Thousand and One Nights* also showed rebellion when she specifically requested to marry the king. She knew what could possibly become her fate if she became wife to the king, and she also knew that her father did not support her risking her life in that manner. But she rebelled against him and went ahead to marry the king.
2. In “Pygmalion and the Statue”, while the protagonist can be seen as obsessive and possessive, he reveres his woman who was transformed from statue to human, “he drapes her in rich clothing and in gems: rings on her fingers, a rich necklace round her neck, pearl pendants on her graceful ears; and golden ornaments adorn her breast.” However, in “Daphne and Phoebus”, the former was turned into a tree by a God before Phoebus had the chance to lay his hands on her, “Help me my father, if thy flowing streams have virtue! Cover me, O mother Earth! Destroy the beauty that has injured me, or change the body that destroys my life.” Daphne’s plea to protect her sexual purity because of Phoebus non-consensual pursuit of her is reminiscent of how obsessed he, as a man, is with the concept of virginity and the sheer objectification of the woman.
3. The girl says, “All the birds of the land Punt / have descended on Egypt, / anointed with myrrh.”(13-15); Here the speaker uses the birds being anointed in myrrh to describevividly how she will capture her beloved’s love just as a bird can be captured with myrrh. The girl believes that her love will be as sticky to her beloved as myrrh on a captured bird. Furthermore, the girl says, “The first to come/ takes the bait”(16-17). The bait here means the most important thing that will attract one person to the other. Therefore, the girl hopes that one of them will be caught by the “bait” of the love that they share. The boy says, “I found the crocodile to be like a mouse,/ and the surface of the water like dry land to my feet.”(9-10) Despite the boy conveying his pessimistic opinions, he uses “the crocodile” to pictorially express his opinion. Here, the crocodile means the challenges they may face but it follows through the imagery description that the girl uses in her poem.
4. In the Egyptian love poem “The Beginning of the Sing that Diverts the Heart,” the girl speaker is passionately thinking of the personal time she will spend with the boy. The “field” is a quiet place where they will both spend intimate time as they get to know each other more. Inasmuch as optimism can sound good in a relationship, lovers have to consider the challenges; the girl does not show any worry to the challenges that they may encounter. On the other hand, the boy is considerate of the consequences and challenges that come with love. He starts out with a pessimistic perspective. He describes the challenges of their love like a “crocodile” but he later believes that they will conquer the challenges which will be like a “mouse”. The optimistic perspective the girl takes does not consider the side of love that comes with challenges. So, this may be a problem in their relationship if they do not look at the future challenges from the onset. Because the boy’s perspective considers both good and bad effects, it is more realistic.