

**Thesis Statements  
Practice**

**Standard 8: Informational Organization**

**Standard 9: Informational Ideas**

**A thesis statement is one sentence that reveals the main idea of your essay. It needs to be clear, and by reading it, your reader (audience) should know exactly what your essay is about (purpose). In other words, the thesis directly answers the question asked by the assignment. Remember, your supports should be facts, not opinions!**

**Phrases to avoid (because they form opinion statements, not facts):**

- 1) I think...
- 2) I believe...
- 3) May be...
- 4) Might be...

**Do not use any of these in your thesis; state your point of view AS A FACT!**

**Sample thesis (level 3):**

**I am proud of our country because we have risen above adversity, survived catastrophes, and created communities.**

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**Now, using your brainstorming sheet, develop a thesis statement of your own. Remember, a level 3 thesis looks like just the example, and a level 4 thesis is creative and original. Try one of each, but make sure that you are able to write a level 3 thesis.**

**Level 3**

The founding fathers should know \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Level 4**

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