Thesis Statements
Thesis statement

- “A thesis asserts or states the main point of any argument you want to make.” (Axelrod and Cooper 659).
- The thesis often contains a forecasting statement that sets up the topics.
A thesis statement must:

- Limit the topic
- Make the writer’s position on the topic clear
- Set up the aspects of the topic presented (‘. . . focuses the reader’s attention on the specific features of the subject you will discuss’)

(Schffhorst and Pharr 26).
Thesis Qualities

- Arguable
- Clear
- Appropriately qualified
- (Axelrod and Cooper 660-661).
Thesis statements

- Generally occur in the first paragraph
- All ideas in the paper must relate to the thesis.
- Must be a sentence
- Must be an assertion
Possible thesis statements

- Steven Hoffbeck’s life and mine are similar; we both grew up on farms and became college professors. Even though my father wasn’t a dairy farmer, we shared tasks such as haying, feeding livestock, and putting hay into the barn.