

A **thesis statement**, also called a **thesis**, is the main point that is to be proven by an essay. Usually backed up by examples, the thesis statement is the theme of the whole piece. The thesis statement also provides the reader with a general idea of what the essay is going to be about. Thesis statements are very specific and to the point. This way the essay stays focused and narrow on the subject matter. Generally, the thesis statement is introduced at the beginning of the piece describing the topic and how the writer is going to analyze the information on that topic. The topic is also summarized at the end, giving the reader, and essay, closure.

Pasted from <<http://www.answers.com/thesis%20statement>>

**Statements of organization** are three separate sentences placed in the introduction (in a five-paragraph essay with three body paragraphs) which function as the arguable topic sentences of the body paragraphs. Statements of organization should relate to each other and should work together to argue thesis. They are the main ideas of each body paragraph.

**Transition words** indicate passage from one state, form, style, or place to another. They include the following words:

**Time:** when, while, since, before, after, until, once

**Place:** where, wherever

**Cause:** because, since, as, now that, inasmuch as

**Condition:** if, unless, on condition that

**Contrast/Concession:** although, even though, despite, in spite of

**Adversative:** while, where, whereas

**Other:** that, which, who, whoever, whom, what, why, how....

Pasted from <[http://www.class.uidaho.edu/adv\\_tech\\_wrt/resources/sentence\\_style/transitions\\_words.htm](http://www.class.uidaho.edu/adv_tech_wrt/resources/sentence_style/transitions_words.htm)>

ICD: See Stylebook