

Name:

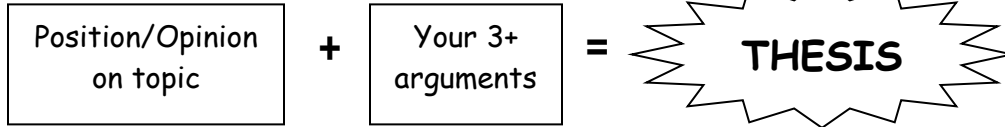
Date:

Core:

DEVELOPING A THESIS

A thesis statement is a single sentence that declares the essay's main idea. It says something about the topic -- conveying your purpose, your opinion, and your attitude. **Once you write your thesis statement, you must be able to support it with your evidence (research/data).**

Answer the following question in your essay: *Should the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) require labels on Genetically Modified Foods?*



Topic	Thesis Statement Examples
Reasons behind Topic EXPLANATORY (Cause and Effect)	Science is the most important class <u>since/because</u> it teaches students about the world around them and their place in it, it trains students to think critically and problem solve, and it helps students to be more creative and curious.
Raising Awareness about topic using persuasive/convincing language PERSUASIVE (Pleading a Case)	<u>Without/If it were not for</u> Science, students wouldn't learn about their world and might live without a realization of how their actions impact the Earth, wouldn't learn to think critically and to problem solve based on data and observation.
Reasons behind topic with analysis ANALYTICAL (evaluate issue in parts)	<u>Since/Because</u> it teaches students about the world, it trains students to think critically and problem solve, and it teaches students about the world around them, Science is the most important subject in school.

ACTIVITY:

1. **Choose** the side you will defend in your essay (circle one)

GMOs should be labeled

GMOs should NOT be labeled

2. **Dissect (cut up, break down)** the thesis statement into parts:

POSITION 1: The FDA should require labels on Genetically Modified Foods

___ Genetically modified foods are still experimental

Documents that support reason: _____

___ Genetically modified foods could harm the environment

Documents that support reason: _____

___ People have a right to know how their food was produced

Documents that support reason: _____

___ Other _____

Documents that support reason: _____

POSITION 2: The FDA should not require labels on Genetically Modified Foods

___ Genetically Modified Foods are tested thoroughly and have been found safe

Documents that support reason: _____

___ Genetically modified foods are already such a large part of our diet in the US

Documents that support reason: _____

___ requiring labeling might give GMOs a bad reputation when they can be used for good things

Documents that support reason: _____

___ Genetically Modified is too vague a term and would need more detail before it becomes a required label

Documents that support reason: _____

___ Other _____

Documents that support reason: _____

3. **Choose** the type of thesis statement that you want to **rewrite**: (circle one)

Explanatory

Persuasive

Analytical

4. **Rewrite** your thesis statement in your own words

Reviewer #1: _____

classmate/parent Initial: _____

THESIS IS...	YES	NO	COMMENTS
FORMAT <i>* explains what the FDA should do</i> <i>* Does not have "my paper is about," "I feel," "I Think" or anything similar to that</i> <i>*grammatically correct: no run on, good punctuation, etc.</i>			
CLEAR & SPECIFIC <i>* Opinion is CLEARLY stated</i> <i>* The reader knows EXACTLY what 3+ arguments you will be proving in your paper</i> <i>*The arguments make sense and relate</i>			
Does the thesis Answer the Essay Question?			

REVISED THESIS:

Teacher: Phillips or Auteri

THESIS IS...	YES	NO	COMMENTS
FORMAT <i>* explains what the FDA should do</i> <i>* Does not have "my paper is about," "I feel," "I Think" or anything similar to that</i> <i>*grammatically correct: no run on, good punctuation, etc.</i>			
CLEAR & SPECIFIC <i>* Opinion is CLEARLY stated</i> <i>* The reader knows EXACTLY what 3+ arguments you will be proving in your paper</i> <i>*The arguments make sense and relate</i>			
Does the thesis Answer the Essay Question?			