# **Table of Contents**

Int	roduction		4
Unit 1: Ele	ments of W	riting	5
W.2.2, 3, 5, 6	Lesson 1	The Writing Process	6
W.2.2, 5, 6	Lesson 2	Writing a Paragraph	24
W.2.2, 5, 6	Lesson 3	Main Idea and Details	35
W.2.2, 5, 6	Lesson 4	Cause and Effect	53
W.2.2, 5, 6	Lesson 5	Compare and Contrast	71
Unit 2: Types of Writing			89
W.2.1, 5, 6	Lesson 6	Reasoned Writing	90
W.2.2, 5, 6, 8	Lesson 7	Descriptive Writing	106
W.2.3, 5, 6, 8	Lesson 8	Narrative Writing	123
W.2.2, 5, 6, 8	Lesson 9	Informational Writing	139
Unit 3: Res	earch		153
W.2.2, 5–8	Lesson 10	Researching Sources and Content .	154
W.2.2, 5–8	Lesson 11	Outlining the Research Paper	164
W.2.2, 5–8	Lesson 12	Writing the Research Paper	170
Unit 4: Lar	iguage Con	ventions	177
W.2.5; L.2.1, 2	Lesson 13	Language Conventions	178
W.2.5; L.2.1, 2	Lesson 14	Grammar	184
Practice Te	st		195
Handbook	ζ		203

## Outlining the Research Paper

W.2.2, 5–8

The first step in writing a report is to pick a subject. The second step is to find out about the subject. The next step is to sort the information.

## **Step 3: Determine the Thesis Statement**

LESSON

You learned about the main idea in Lesson 3. The **thesis statement** is like the main idea. It tells the purpose of your paper.

The thesis statement is one sentence. It is in the first paragraph. A thesis statement is not a fact. It is a general statement that is supported by facts. It tells the reader what he will learn.





UNIT 3 Research

## **Guided Practice**

#### Answer the questions.

Which of these is the <u>best</u> thesis statement?

- A My report is about an important place.
- B Washington, D.C., was not the first capital of the United States.
- C New York City has many firsts, including the first capital of the new country.
- D New York was the capital of the United States until 1790.

A thesis is not a fact. Choices B and D are incorrect. These are facts. Choice A is too general. Choice A is incorrect. The correct answer is choice C. This sums up the main idea of the paper.

Which of these is the best thesis statement?

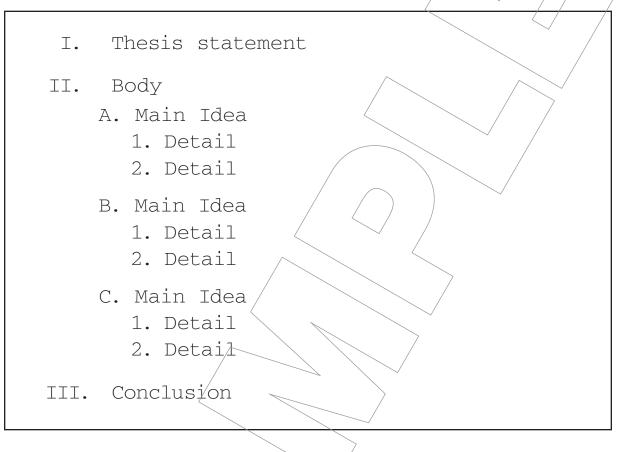
- A Thomas Jefferson was our third president.
- B Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence.
- C Thomas Jefferson helped our new nation in many ways.
- D Thomas Jefferson created buildings.

Choices A, B, and D are facts. They tell about Jefferson. These are incorrect. Choice C is the correct answer. Choices A, B, and D support the thesis statement.



## Step 4: Outline the Paper

The outline helps you plan your paper. It helps you sort your facts. First, write down the main ideas. Then give them a letter. Next, list details that support this idea. Number them. Now, you have sorted your facts into an outline. Here is an example of an outline.



Each main idea will be a paragraph in your paper.

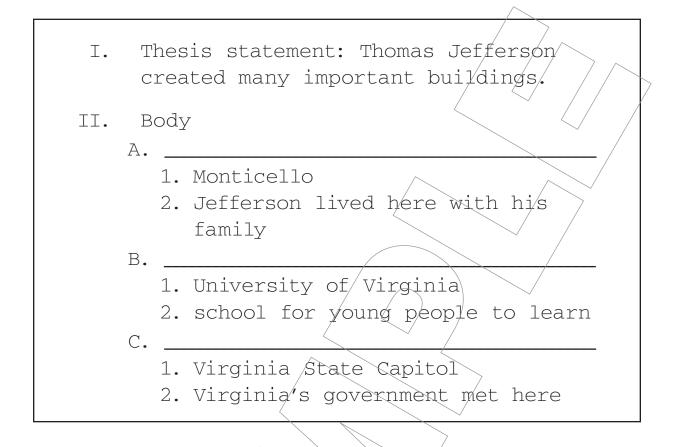
Sometimes, you find that you need more facts. You can look for more facts that support your main ideas. If you have too many facts about a main idea, you can use only the most important one. You do not have to use all your facts. You should use the details that best support your main ideas.

The **conclusion** is the sentence that sums up the purpose of the paper. It is in the last paragraph.



## **Guided Practice**

Read the outline. Then answer the questions.



Match each main idea below with the details that support it.

\_\_\_\_\_built a government building

\_\_\_\_ built his house

\_\_\_\_ built a school

The details support each main idea. These main ideas and details support the thesis statement. Here are the correct answers:

<u>\_C</u>\_built a government building

<u>A</u> built his house

<u>B</u>built a school



Research

## **Test Yourself**

#### Read the questions. Then answer them.

- 1 Where should the thesis statement appear in a research paper?
  - A in the beginning paragraph
  - **B** in the middle paragraph
  - **C** in the last paragraph
  - D in the title
- 2 How does an outline help you write your paper?

- 3 Which is the <u>best</u> thesis statement?
  - A Abraham Lincoln had his own holiday named Lincoln's Birthday.
  - B George Washington had a holiday called Washington's Birthday.
  - C Today, Presidents' Day honors both President Lincoln and President Washington.
  - D Many of our national holidays were changed in the 1970s.



- 4 Read the outline. Where would you add these details in the outline below?
  - 1. celebrate our freedom from England
  - 1. remember people who died fighting for the America
  - 1. remember the hard work of our laborers, or workers

