Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Miller

English I PreAP

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Fun\* with Thesis Statements!

So, what is a thesis statement?

In general, a **thesis sentence** expresses the purpose or main point of your essay. It is your commitment to the reader about the content, purpose, and organization of your paper.

What should my thesis statement look like for English I PreAP?

Your thesis should:

* Be one sentence long. Not two. Not three. One.
* Answer all parts of the prompt. Keep in mind that most prompts have *two* parts. You must answer both.
* Include TATTT: A **T**hesis must include the name of the **A**uthor, the **T**itle of the work, the **T**ype of literature (genre), and the **T**ime period.

Your thesis should not:

* Be a summary of the passage
* Include quotations from the text
* Be generic and full of “fluff” words (strong, good, nice, excellent, great, etc.)
* Be a book report or your opinion on the quality of the text

How do I know what the prompt is asking me?

Breaking down the prompt is a vital step when writing a thesis. You have to know what to write about! So, before you jump into the writing process, take a minute or two to “annotate” your prompt. Circle, underline, or highlight all the important words and phrases so you can easily figure out what questions the prompt is asking you. Again, most prompts have TWO parts, and it is your responsibility to answer both. Let’s look at an example:

**Prompt**: In a well-developed essay, discuss how Card’s use of diction, details, imagery, and/or figurative language contribute to the differences between Peter and Ender.

* Part One
  + Analyze and discuss Card’s use of diction, details, imagery, and/or figurative language in relation to Peter and Ender
* Part Two
  + Analyze and discuss the differences between Peter and Ender

**Sample Thesis**: By utilizing violent diction and gruesome visual imagery, Card, in his science fiction novel *Ender’s Game*, suggests that Peter’s strong will and aggression make him inherently more evil than his brother, Ender.

**Note**: This is by no means the greatest thesis in the world. As the year progresses we will work together to use better vocabulary and sentence structure. For now, I just want you to focus on answer the prompt without simply summarizing.

Now you try!

Discuss in your groups the two parts to the following prompt.

**Prompt**: In a well-developed essay, analyze and explain how Card’s use of diction, details, imagery, and/or figurative language helps to clarify the relationship between Ender and his squadron leaders.

**Part One**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Part Two**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Now let’s practice with our prompt from yesterday! Get out your copy of the passage from *The Hobbit*. You may also want highlighters for this.\*

In order to write our **T**hesis, we need to make sure we have our other **TATTT** information.

**A**uthor of the text: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**T**itle of the text: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**T**ype of Literature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**T**ime Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now, let’s break down the prompt:

In a well-developed essay, discuss how Card’s use of diction, details, imagery, and/or figurative language helps to develop the character of Bilbo Baggins.

**Part One**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Part Two**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Brainstorming for Part One** | **Brainstorming for Part Two** |
|  |  |

Now, rewrite your thesis statement. Forget all about the one you wrote yesterday. This one is going to be so much more awesome! ☺

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