Why Do You Need a Thesis Statement?

-Helps the writer start their essay and provides direction

-Informs the reader of what your essay is about and your key points

-Defines the main argument and how the writer plans on supporting it

Keep in Mind

-Appears at the start of your essay

-Is a clear STATEMENT or claim of the main point that will be argued in the essay

-Answers the questions, “What is my opinion on Subject X” and “What am I going to argue in this essay”?

-Uses clear, direct and meaningful language

AVOID

-DO NOT try to cover more than one idea. This will make the essay confusing for both yourself and the reader

-DO NOT simply state your opinion but rather provide a statement that you can later support with evidence

-DO NOT confuse the reader with your statement. Your position needs to be clear

EXAMPLE

“Child abuse laws in this state are too lenient for repeat offenders”.