



History Day Thesis Draft

Teachers: Steps 1 and 2 are designed to be completed after brief preliminary research. Steps 3 and 4 should be completed after students have done additional secondary source research. Step 5 focuses on revision. Students should wait until they feel they are “done” with their research to complete.

STEP 1: DRAFT Create a first draft of your History Day thesis in three sentences. Replace the underlines with your own words answering the questions in parentheses..

Sentence 1: Before Your Main Event

In _____ (*general time period?*) the problem/situation in _____ (*location?*) was _____ (*describe specific problem or situation*).

Sentence 2: The Five Ws

In/On _____ (*specific year/date?*) _____ (*who: person/group?*) _____ (*action describing main event including specific location*) because/in order to _____ (*why/motivation?*).

Sentence 3: Impact in History

Shortly after, _____ (*describe short term impact/s*).
This changed history because/by _____ (*describe long term impact/s*).

STEP 2: COMBINE Combine your sentences into one thesis. Copy your finished sentences from above without the describing words in parentheses. Paste them into the box below. Keep your sentences in the same order.

STEP 3: BRAINSTORM THEME Brainstorm your theme connection. Fill in the blanks below with your own words.

What was the Turning Point?

What changed? Have you considered different points of view? _____

STEP 4: ADD IN THEME Copy your thesis from the box in Step 2. Paste in the box below. Think about where the theme fits in your thesis. Revise your thesis to include the theme connection from Step 3.

STEP 5: REVISE Your thesis statement is a work in progress. Copy your thesis statement from Step 4. Paste in the box below. Edit your thesis to make changes. Think about making it sound better as well as incorporating any new ideas you have come across in your research.