**The Thesis Statement: Composition**

Our thesis statement must include 5 components:

1. Narrowed topic
2. The 5 Ws
3. The Theme
4. Short-Term Impact
5. Long-Term Impact

We already have a narrowed topic and our 5 Ws. We wrote a paragraph including these components when we wrote the summary portion of our *Wikipedia* page.

**Let’s rewrite/revise that summary here. It will serve as the introductory information for our thesis paragraph.**

Summary that describes our narrow topic and includes the 5 Ws:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Now, re-read the above sentences. Are they specific, for example, let’s say we are discussing the Marshall Plan. We could identify the time period as “the 1940s,” but it could be more SPECIFIC to say “1947, post-World War II Europe.” We could identify the location as “Europe,” but it would be more SPECIFIC to say “Western Europe.” We could identify the major players in this event as “Harry Truman and George Marshall,” but it would be more SPECIFIC to say “President Harry Truman and Secretary of State George Marshall.”

**Make any necessary revisions or additions.**

Now we need to compose the argumentative portion of our thesis paragraph, or the 1-2 sentence thesis statement, if you will. Remember, it is hard to make sense of a thesis statement without the introductory information we just composed.

**Let’s identify our impacts:**

Short-Term Impact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Long-Term Impact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Finally, let’s go back in and add the theme words to our impact sentence. Where can you reasonably swap out language and replace it with “breaking barriers?”

**Make these revisions.**

**Finally, let’s combine our introductory information sentences with our argument sentences to create our thesis paragraph.**

**Thesis Paragraph:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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