

## ***Moving From Topic To Thesis Sentence:***

Before you can write about a topic, you must narrow it down and decide on a thesis. When formulating your thesis statement, you must ask yourselves the following questions:

- “ Have I **narrowed** down my topic?
- “ What is my **opinion** about the topic I have narrowed down?
- “ What is my **purpose** in writing about this topic?
- “ Can I break down my topic into **parts** that I can explain in two or more paragraphs? (optional)

Your answers to these questions will help you write a clear and focused **thesis statement** that expresses the main idea of your essay. Remember as a rule, most thesis statements appear at the end of your introduction in an essay.

### **Topic**

My summer job at the Concord Hotel

### **Thesis**

Working as a waitress at a large family resort was the worst job I ever had.

NARROWED TOPIC: Waitressing during the summer

OPINION: It was the worst job I ever had

PURPOSE: To explain to my readers why it was a terrible job so that they will understand the problems I had performing this job

**Topic**

Three things I would change about Friends University

**Thesis**

If I could change three things about Friends University, I would improve food choices in the cafeteria, decrease class size in first-year courses, and build a fitness center for students and faculty

**NARROWED TOPIC:** I chose 3 specific things I would change.

**OPINION:** If these three things could change, Friends University would improve.

**PURPOSE:** To tell readers why I would want to change these 3 things about Friends so that they will understand better the benefits from making these specific changes