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Examples: Thesis Statements and Key Findings

Below you will find some mixed examples of thesis statements and key findings, all of which can be presented in 1-2 sentences in the introduction of your assignment (and then argued throughout the body of the assignment). You will note the following in each of the examples:

- They vary in length and detail.
- The topics are relatively narrow in scope.
- While some use phrases like "this essay argues", others simply state the claim without an introductory phrase.
- All adopt a clear angle that attempts to convince the reader of something.
- Most account for the broader significance/importance of the claim being made.
- Nursing: This essay argues that nurse-led interventions in patient care significantly improve patient outcomes in hospitals, particularly in managing chronic conditions like diabetes.
- Agricultural Science: The key finding of this report is that the adoption of precisionfarming technologies is the optimal choice for tillage farmers in the south-east of Ireland, who will be able to enhance crop yield while minimising environmental impacts, thus contributing to more sustainable agricultural practices.
- Literature: This essay argues that Leo Tolstoy's 1867 novel, War and Peace, employs a fragmented narrative structure that merges multiple storylines, shifts between character perspectives, as well as integrating personal, historical, and philosophical reflections. In doing so, the novel not only reflects the cultural and political upheavals of 19th-century Russia, but it maps both the complexities of war and the human condition, ultimately illustrating the ways in which individuals are shaped by historical events and societal forces.
- Law: Digital privacy case law reveals a number of legal challenges (such as inconsistent data collection regulation, surveillance overreach for online crime prevention, and AI's developmental outpacing of the law), which highlight the increasing tension between protecting individual rights and ensuring national security in the age of technology.
- History: While the American Civil War was predominantly concerned with slavery, this research reveals that the conflict was also a determining factor in issues of twentieth-century economic interests. For example, the important economic role of the Civil War is evidenced in the introduction of the national banking system, in the South's transition from a slave-based economy to one of free labour, as well as in the expansion of the railroad network, which became essential for wartime military supply lines.
- Biology: Blue coral's unique adaptations to fluctuating ocean temperatures and varying depths highlight its evolutionary resilience. Thus, the key finding of this essay is that blue coral's genetic diversity plays a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance by enabling the species to survive environmental changes and support marine biodiversity.

NOTE: Please see the following handouts from the UCD Writing Centre: 1) What is a Thesis Statement?, 2) How to Write a Thesis Statement, and 3) Strengthening Your Thesis Statement.