

SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES AND MASTERY TESTS

WRITING A THESIS STATEMENT

This activity will give you practice in writing an effective thesis—one that is neither too broad nor too narrow for the supporting points in an essay. An added value of the activity is that sometimes you will construct your thesis after you have decided what your supporting points will be. Thus, you can gain experience here in writing a thesis that stems from a set of supporting points.

1. Thesis _____

- a. All the resorts, from beaches to mountains to amusement parks, charge top dollar at this time.
- b. The heat and humidity during the summer months make traveling extremely uncomfortable.
- c. Highways, campsites, and motels are jammed with other vacationers.

2. Thesis _____

- a. Daydreaming allows us to exercise our imaginations.
- b. Time spent daydreaming can aid relaxation and help eliminate stress.
- c. Often, solutions to difficult problems pop into the mind while a person daydreams.

3. Thesis _____

- a. Cutting down on salt will reduce water retention and that bloated feeling.
- b. Salt reduction may also help hypertension.
- c. Without salt, the natural flavors of food come through.

4. Thesis _____

- a. A digital camera permits on-the-spot deletion of poorly-shot photos.
- b. Digital cameras are lightweight and compact.
- c. Digital cameras have the capacity to hold many consecutive photos.