

Focus: writing a thesis statement

Agenda:

Mythology

Timed writing - truisms and thesis statements

Outside reading project

Homework: Get your book from last quarter for the outside reading project (Friday)! Be prepared for the timed writing next class with double-entry notes!

What is a truism?

What is a truism?

It is a statement that is considered to be mostly universally true; it cuts across culture and time and it is a statement with which most people, regardless of age or upbringing, will find to be true. It is a statement that people can relate to and understand. The ideas presented are UNIVERSALLY relatable.

Finding the truism in literature helps you connect stories to one another and to everything else out there in the REAL world.

Finding the truism helps you write an AWESOME THESIS!

People need people.



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People need people.

How does
this picture
relate?

It takes each of us...

What picture
would work for
this truism?



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It takes each of us...



What does this picture represent?
What truism can we use here?



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Developing a thesis

Some facts:

- a thesis statement comes at the end of your introductory paragraph!
- a thesis is an arguable/debatable statement that shows your opinion, but it is stated confidently as a fact!
- a thesis will guide your reader to seeing exactly what you see!

Writing your intro paragraph:

Your intro paragraph should include the following:

a HOOK to grab your reader's attention

a sentence that includes the author of the literary work AND title of the work

a brief summary of the literary work

(In *The Scarlet Ibis*, the narrator tells the story of the life and death of his younger crippled brother, Doodle, through flashbacks and selective details.)

- In Steinbeck's novella *Of Mice and Men*, the theme of _____ is emphasized/predominant/significant/shown through _____

(the characters on the ranch and their actions? Ask yourself some questions about this theme...** Who does the theme relate to? Who does it NOT relate to? Who are you going to talk about? Ask some questions....This is where you can summarize the commonalities of the characters.)

- Steinbeck's ***purpose*** was to show his readers that _____

This is your thesis. It is a truism + your personal opinion in this situation.

In Hurst's story The Scarlet Ibis, the narrator expresses his feelings of guilt over his brother Doodle's death through his reflections & selective details in order to explore the idea that to love means to accept a measure of responsibility towards another being.

Class Discussion

How did Steinbeck's view of society affect his writing of the novel?

What was Steinbeck's message about the American Dream based on the novel?

What was the symbolism in Lennie's vision of Aunt Clara @ the end?

Why did Steinbeck use human/animal experience to foreshadow human exp.?

What was Steinbeck trying to say about societal levels/classes?

Does Steinbeck encourage isolation or friendship?

What is Steinbeck's purpose in the naming of characters?

What was Steinbeck's purpose in showing us Lennie's hallucination?

What message was Steinbeck

sending in *Friendship & Isolation*?

How does the title help us understand the story's main idea?
How does the author's animal imagery help us understand characters better?

Mythology

hospitality

accept people in your home

treat guests well

sometimes better than
yourself or family

