

Exercise 1 - Choose the thesis statement that best expresses each theme.

Theme: the appeal of computer games

- Computer games can be very expensive.
- My favorite computer game is Donkey Kong.
- Someday I hope to design a computer game.
- Computer games involve the hand, the eye, and the mind.

1. Theme: the benefits of some bacteria

- Some bacteria are harmful.
- Many kinds of bacteria are useful to humans.
- Bacteria are very tiny, single-celled organisms.
- Some helpful bacteria live in the human digestive tract.

2. Theme: the satisfactions of volunteering at the cat shelter

- Sign up at the front desk if you want to volunteer at the cat shelter.
- The cat shelter is a place where you can go to adopt a cat or kitten.
- I like cats because they are like miniature lions.
- I like volunteering at the cat shelter because I know I'm helping animals as well as our
- community.

3. Theme: the health benefits of cross-country skiing

- Cross-country skiing offers fun for people of all ages.
- Cross-country skiing develops the heart and lungs as well as the body.
- Cross-country skiing is an extremely popular sport in Norway.
- Cross-country skiing is much safer than downhill skiing.

4. Theme: the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet

- Bicycle helmets are not suitable for motorcyclists.
- Most bicycle helmets have a sleek shape to lower wind resistance.
- Bicyclists who have their heads on straight always wear helmets.
- Bicyclists who are safe riders always use hand signals when making turns.

5. Theme: the humor in a movie you saw recently

- Half of the characters in the movie *Bonzo Goes Bananas* are apes.
- *Bonzo Goes Bananas* is funnier than *Bonzo Goes Ape*.
- If you like slapstick humor, you'll love the movie *Bonzo Goes Bananas*.
- The movie *Bonzo Goes Bananas* won't appeal to everyone.

Exercise 2 Choose the main idea that does **NOT** support the thesis statement provided.

Thesis statement: My first trip in an airplane went smoother than I expected.

Main ideas:

- Airports are busy places these days.
- I was a little nervous at first.
- I spent the middle part of the trip studying the landscape far below.
- The descent and landing were exciting.

1. Thesis statement: Building a bluebird house is not difficult.

Main ideas:

- Assemble your materials.
- Construct the house.
- Paint or stain the house.
- Feed the bluebirds.

2. Thesis statement: This model is a replica of a medieval castle.

Main ideas:

- The design is typical of twelfth-century English castles.
- Women in medieval society were in charge of household tasks.
- The rooms are authentically furnished and decorated.
- The tiny figures represent the royal family, their knights, and servants.