LESSON 21
PRACTICE WORKSHEET A

Writing a Thesis Statement

Directions: Circle the letter of the best thesis statement for each composition.

1. a composition about the importance of eating lunch
   a. Lunch is one of my favorite meals, delicious and nutritious.
   b. Eating lunch boosts health and provides needed afternoon energy.
   c. If you skip lunch, you’ll regret it all day long.

2. a composition about the effect of visitors on the country’s national parks
   a. The growing number of visitors to our national parks is beginning to cause problems with traffic, noise, and pollution.
   b. More people are visiting national parks like Yellowstone, Arches, and Canyonlands each and every year.
   c. When you visit one of the country’s national parks, never leave trash behind.

3. a persuasive essay arguing in favor of building a community sports center
   a. Sports centers are great. We need to build a new one for this neighborhood.
   b. Building a new sports center, why not? I don’t think it’s a bad idea.
   c. Building a new sports center would give kids a place to play, gain new skills, and help keep them out of trouble.

4. a composition comparing portable CD players with portable MP3 players
   a. Although both devices let you hear music on the go, there are important differences between CD players and MP3 players.
   b. It will cost you about the same amount of money to buy an MP3 player as it would to buy a CD player.
   c. MP3 players are better than CD players.

B. Directions: Read the outline and write a thesis statement.

Topic: Young people should pay attention to politics.
   A. Young people are intelligent enough to understand what’s going on.
   B. Politics affects everyone’s lives, including young people’s.
   C. Paying attention to politics now will help young people to be informed citizens when they are old enough to vote.

5. Thesis statement:
Writing a Thesis Statement (Lesson 21 – Practice Worksheet B)

Directions: Read each outline for a composition. Then write an appropriate thesis statement on the lines for the composition described.

1. a composition that discusses the responsibilities involved in caring for a pet.

Topic: What pet ownership involves.
   A. It takes a lot of time to care for a pet.
   B. Pet ownership can be expensive.
   C. When you get a pet, you commit yourself to taking care of it for life.

Thesis statement:

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2. an essay in favor of a proposal to increase recycling programs in your town

Topic: Proposal to increase recycling programs.
   A. The town can save money by recycling more.
   B. Recycling helps saves energy.
   C. Recycling is good for the environment.

Thesis statement:

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3. a research paper on the damage earthquakes can cause

Topic: Earthquake damage.
   A. Earthquakes can be incredibly powerful natural events.
   B. Whole cities have been destroyed in earthquakes.
   C. Some earthquakes have caused millions of dollars of damage.

Thesis statement:

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