

Thesis & Evidence

9th Grade

How to build a defensible thesis, and the evidence sandwich under it.

THE THESIS FORMULA

**Although [counter-view], [your claim]
because [reason 1] and [reason 2].**

*"Although Macbeth is warned repeatedly, his fall is self-authored,
because he reads prophecy as permission and silences every doubt."*

ARGUABLE vs NOT

Not a thesis

"This essay is about the water shortage."

Not a thesis

"Pollution is bad for rivers."

A thesis

"River charges, not household bans, are the only lever that has cut usage."

THE EVIDENCE SANDWICH

- 1 Set up** Give the context the quotation needs.
- 2 Quote** Short. Embedded in your own sentence.
- 3 Analyse** Two sentences on the choice of words.
- 4 Link** Tie it back to the thesis, explicitly.

CHECK

Could a reasonable person write the opposite essay? If not, sharpen the claim.