**Thesis Statements**

**Samples of strong and weak thesis statements**

TOPIC: body piercing  
BAD: Body piercing is popular among kids nowadays.  
BETTER: Body piercing among contemporary youth represents the latest form of rebelling against authority that previous generations manifested in smoking, getting tattoos, and wearing mini-skirts.

TOPIC: female musicians  
BAD: Female musicians are getting more popular.  
BETTER: During the past five years, musical artists like Sheryl Crow, Alanis Morisette, and Jewel have solidified a place for women's music on the top ten charts.

TOPIC: news coverage of military action  
BAD: News coverage of military actions undermines their seriousness.   
BETTER: By featuring highlights of air strikes and peace-keeping missions on the news, television producers reduce them to the status of popular entertainment and undermine the audience's appreciation of the seriousness of military actions.

**Which of these sentences is a thesis statement?**

1. Last year saw a decrease in the number of "bad girl" roles in Hollywood.
2. Internet pornography is a controversial subject.
3. **World hunger has many causes and effects.**
4. **More attention should be paid to the food and beverage choices available to elementary school children.**
5. **Experts estimate that half of elementary school children consume nine times the recommended daily allowance of sugar.**
6. **Because half of all American elementary school children consume nine times the recommended daily allowance of sugar, schools should be required to replace the beverages in soda machines with healthy alternatives.**

**Rewrite the statement below to be a strong thesis statement.**

My instructor should not have an attendance policy because it is unfair.

Source: Stanford.edu and Indiana.edu