Writing a Thesis Statement

Your thesis statement is an educated opinion supported with well-researched facts

in order to convince the reader that your argument is valid.

Your thesis states the main point of your essay. It does not simply announce your subject – it specifies the point you will make.

A thesis should:

- 1. identify a limited subject
- 2. make clear your attitude toward the subject
- 3. focus the reader's attention on specific features of the subject, e.g., what you find:
 - a. true
 - b. interesting
 - c. valuable

EXAMPLE :

Your thesis title: Controversy Surrounds Violent Video Games

Your thesis statement:

Video games that rely on aggressive and anti-social scenes and behaviors foster an acceptance of violence in our society.

ASK YOURSELF:

Does my thesis statement make an assertion about the topic? Is my assertion limited to one idea? Is my assertion specific and significant? Does my thesis statement convey my purpose and opinion?

- Give yourself plenty of time to evaluate your choice of topics and rethink your topic, if necessary.
- Consult library materials and online databases to see if sufficient work has been done on the subject to make it a viable topic.
- If you encounter problems locating resources at any point in the project, do not hesitate to consult the librarian.
- Consult with your classroom teacher to clarify the assignment.
- REMEMBER ... this requires authentic research. <u>Do Not Plagiarize</u> any portion of the project.

Ms. Craddock JMHS Librarian 2011