

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

OUTLINES AND THESIS STATEMENTS

Evaluating Sample Thesis Statements

Directions Remember that a thesis statement is a sentence that tells briefly and clearly the central idea of a whole report or research paper. Read each of the following thesis statements for a research report about saving endangered species and answer the questions that follow them.

- A. If human beings act now, many species currently listed as endangered can be saved.
- B. The big question is whether it is better to help the animals that are in the greatest danger or the creatures that have the best chance of survival.
- C. Animals can be endangered because of natural disasters, diseases, pollution, over-hunting, or loss of their natural habitats.
- D. An endangered animal is one that will become extinct unless conditions improve.
- E. This report is about endangered animals in the United States.

1. Which thesis statement best fits the purpose of the topic? Why?

2. In which statement did the author forget to state the basic topic? Revise the statement into an appropriate thesis statement.

3. Which statement names the topic of the report but does not tell what the main idea is? Revise the statement into an appropriate thesis statement.

4. Which thesis statement would convince you to read the report? Why?
