

How to Write a Theme Statement

**identifying abstract concept &
commenting about the human condition**

Step 1: TOPIC

Choose an abstract concept like *unrequited love, freedom, abuse, jealousy, self-pity, or fear of the dark* that the work explores.

Step 2: STATEMENT part 1

The _____ by _____
(genre) (title) (author)

is about _____.
(topic/abstract concept)

Step 3:

Now, you need to state what the literary work asserts about this abstract topic. If a poem is about *jealousy*, what opinion does it express about the effect of jealousy on humanity?

Step 4: STATEMENT part 2

The _____ by _____
(genre) (title) (author)

is about _____
(topic/abstract concept)

and reveals _____.
(assertion about human condition)