What is a Thesis?

A **thesis** is the part of your essays introduction in which you **establish your CLAIM and identify the topics you will discuss** in the essay to prove your claim. A thesis tells your reader what your essay will be about, so they know their purpose for reading. A thesis can be more than one sentence.

Components of the *Introduction*

Sentence #	Content
1	Introduction Sentence
2	**Identify** an Enduring Issue found in the documents and **define** it
3	Explain why the Enduring Issue is **significant** Make a claim using "because" Example: Conflict is significant because…
4	Document 1 State how your **first** document shows the Enduring Issue
5	Document 2 State how your **second** document shows the Enduring Issue
6	Document 3 State how your **third** document shows the Enduring Issue

Sample *Introductions and Thesis Statements*

Throughout history, many countries and people have seen different levels of power and control. Power can be defined as the ability to influence or control the behavior of people and it is a part of every human interaction. Power can have a significant effect on civilizations because it has impacted a lot of people and has been an issue over time as seen in Hammurabi's Code (doc 1), the Ten Commandments (doc 2), and Divine Right (doc 3). In Mesopotamia, Hammurabi's Code provided order and stability to society. The Ten Commandments provided a guideline for Jews and Christians to follow. In Europe, the divine right of kings meant that the power to rule came from god.

Many historians note that inequality has been present throughout the course of history. This occurs when one group has more power than another group of people. Inequality is a significant issue because it has impacted many groups of people, led to conflict and a fight for rights over the world, and has been an issue over time as seen in the Hammurabi's Code (doc 1), the Caste System (doc 2), and Women in the Middle East (doc 3). Hammurabi's Code from Mesopotamia created divisions based on social classes. The Caste System discriminated against lower castes and untouchables. In modern day Islam, men are valued more than women.