

## EXERCISE 2-2 Thesis Statements

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In each of the following pairs, which sentence might work well as a thesis for a paper based on reading? What is the problem with the other one? Is it too factual? Too broad? Too vague?

- 1a. So far, research suggests that zero-emissions vehicles are not a sensible solution to the problem of steadily increasing air pollution.
- b. Because air pollution is of serious concern to many people in the world today, several government agencies in the United States have implemented plans to begin solving the problem.
- 2a. Anorexia nervosa is a dangerous, sometimes deadly eating disorder found mainly in young, upper-middle-class teenagers.
- b. The eating disorder anorexia nervosa is rarely cured by one treatment alone; only by combining drug therapy with psychotherapy and family therapy can the patient begin the long, torturous journey to wellness.
- 3a. Although we cannot fully harness the powers that nature wields, we can manage most naturally occurring forest fires to benefit our national parks.
- b. The Yellowstone fires of 1988 taught many lessons to many people.
- 4a. Marijuana is classified by the Drug Enforcement Agency as a Schedule I drug.
- b. If marijuana was legalized for medical purposes, we could relieve some of the suffering associated with AIDS, cancer, and glaucoma.
- 5a. On July 22, 1934, a man identified as John Dillinger was killed in the alley next to the Biograph Theater in Chicago.
- b. Sweeping across the Midwest in the early 1930s, the Dillinger gang's crime wave epitomized the lawlessness of the era.