

Proposal argument essays and thesis statements

Sometimes arguments come in the form of proposing a solution to a problem. In a proposal argument essay, writers address an issue and suggest a possible way to fix it. Proposal argument essays work to convince readers that the proposed solution is effective and realistic. There are two types of proposal arguments: A *practical* proposal argument seeks to solve a more local or simple problem with a tangible solution. For example, if a certain school is having a problem with weapon-related violence, a practical solution might be to install metal detectors at all access points and increase police presence. This is a practical proposal because there is a very clear cause-effect relationship between the action and its effect and because the resources needed to enact this solution are measurable in terms of cost and supplies.

A *policy* proposal argument, however, works to solve more large-scale issues that might require changes to policies, procedures, or ideologies. Solutions to these kinds of issues may not have a simple, clear, or measurable effect on the problem, and it may not be possible to accurately measure the resources necessary for enacting the solution. These kinds of arguments are thus more complex. For example, there isn't a simple solution to decreasing the unemployment rate in the United States. Many people think that the simple solution is to increase the number of available jobs, but there may be additional barriers such as the kinds of jobs we need to add and the qualifications of those people who are unemployed. The solution may be to add more jobs, but a policy proposal also suggests a method for enacting this solution.

Whether writing a practical or policy proposal, authors should construct thesis statements that clearly communicate the issue at hand and the author's solution. For example, one such thesis statement might be: "In order to protect patients' rights and ensure ethical treatment, donors should be able to track these samples as they are used for research and should be compensated if these samples are used for monetary gain." This thesis statement clearly alerts readers to the issue at hand and briefly lays out the author's proposed solution.

Clearly, each type of thesis statement serves a distinct purpose. It helps indicate to readers whether the work is explaining a place, event, or theory; analyzing a system or concept; or trying to persuade the audience to feel a certain way about an issue. Writers need to construct their thesis statements according to their purpose so that readers can clearly identify the writer's goal and follow their thoughts throughout the essay. Thus, an experienced writer will carefully assess their purpose for writing before composing a work.