

Thesis Project Organizer

Preliminary/Working Thesis: What is the argument you plan to prove in your project? (Avoid a “so what” thesis.)

Supporting Argument:

Evidence/Quotes:

Transition:

Supporting Argument:

Evidence/Quotes:

Transition:

Supporting Argument:

Evidence/Quotes:

Transition:

Examination and
Refutation of Possible
Opposing Arguments:

Evidence/Quotes:

Reconfirmation of
Position/Thesis —
Main Points

Projected Conclusion: Powerfully restate the stance of your thesis in light of the evidence you presented.

Position Paper and Thesis Checklist

(Y = Achieved, N = Needs Improvement)

Teacher	Position Paper	Student
	Thesis statement clearly defines position	
	Offers historical background to further understanding of the issue	
	Explains the controversy surrounding the issue	
	Summarizes the various existing points of view	
	Position is well supported by evidence showing how recognized experts or current studies support position	
	Discusses implications and recommends a course of action (if appropriate)	
	Conclusion is strong and persuasive	
	Paper is well documented with high-quality sources	
	Information is presented in the proper and logical format	

Source: Developed by Michael Wagman, teacher of the gifted, School District of Springfield Township, Erdenheim, PA.