

How to Write a Thesis Statement

Mock Topic: Critically discuss the role of media during the Vietnam war.

TOPIC Keywords taken from question.	STANCE The angle you are adopting.	RATIONALE The reasons behind your stance; the crux of the argument your essay will make.	BROADER SIGNIFICANCE Why should I care about what you are telling me? What are the wider consequences of what you are arguing? E.g. culturally, socially, politically, medically, artistically, in terms of policy, etc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Media.Vietnam war.Context of (predominantly) the 1960s.	Media changed US public <u>perception</u> of the war.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Great deal of wartime <u>imagery</u> (namely, photographs).First time US <u>public</u> saw such graphic imagery of war.Sparked anti-war <u>protests</u> in US.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Highlighted suffering in new, visceral way; reconceptualised the very definition of war and its meanings on a domestic home-front, i.e. <u>foreign wars</u> not so far away; redefined boundaries between home and away.Placed <u>photography</u> at the heart of modern journalism.

Mock Thesis Statement: Focusing exclusively on wartime photography, this essay argues that media coverage of the Vietnam War was essential to shaping the perception of governmental violence in the public imagination of 1960s America; as well as sparking nationwide anti-war sentiment, the new proliferation of graphic imagery from otherwise foreign and often invisible conflicts resulted in a destabilization of the boundary between domestic and international spheres. Moreover, as is evidenced in the subsequent and rapid expansion in conflict zone photography, the media coverage of the Vietnam War resulted in the centralisation of photography within modern journalism.

Your Turn!

Question/ Topic:

TOPIC	STANCE	RATIONALE	BROADER SIGNIFICANCE

Thesis Statement: