

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Recognizing Main Ideas in Thesis Statements Score _____/50

Objective: To recognize a topic and identify main ideas in thesis statements

Read each thesis statement carefully: Underline the topic (WHO or WHAT) and HIGHLIGHT the 3 MAIN IDEAS that are part of each thesis statement.

1. **Thesis:** Medicinal marijuana use should not be legalized because it creates problems for peace officers, physicians, and parents.

2. **Thesis:** Even though computers have their idiosyncrasies, they have improved our lives tremendously by simplifying word processing, streamlining data storage, and promoting an international exchange of information.

3. **Thesis:** Even though chocolate tantalizes my taste buds and satiates my emotional need to be loved, it causes weight gain, clogs arteries, and contains caffeine.

4. **Thesis:** First-degree murderers should receive capital punishment because there are too many repeat offenders, because rehabilitation programs have proved ineffective, and because murder is too heinous a crime to be punished by anything less than death.

5. **Thesis:** Because of his determination, his courage to follow his beliefs, and his unwavering sense of justice, Martin Luther King, Jr. is a symbol of American freedom.

6. **Thesis:** Through playing violent video games, such as Grand Theft Auto, teenagers are learning to behave like criminals, do not focus on school, and become more violent.

7. **Thesis:** A uniform policy will ensure true equality in schools, save families money, and help schools identify visitors easily.

8. **Thesis:** Uniforms would cause more problems in a school than they would solve. They eliminate free expression, cause teachers to waste time, and are too expensive.