

THESIS CHECKLIST

- Does it **TAKE A STAND**?
- Can it be backed up by **EVIDENCE**?
- Does it express **ONE MAIN IDEA**?
- Does it tell the viewer why the topic is **HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT**? Does it answer the **“SO WHAT?”** question or show **CHANGE OVER TIME**?
- Does it connect with the **NHD THEME**? (optional)
- Is it **ARGUABLE**? Is there something you’re trying to **PROVE**?
- Is it written as a 1-2 sentence **STATEMENT**, not a topic or question?
- Is it **NARROW** and specific?

THESIS STATEMENT (What am I trying to prove? Be sure to write your answer as a complete sentence, not a question or a phrase.)

CLAIM #1

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #1

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

CLAIM #2

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #2

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

CLAIM #3

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

How many claims do you need to make your case? (3-5 claims are usually appropriate)
Do you have enough evidence for each point to make a persuasive claim? Does one claim lead into the next?
Are you using a mix of different kinds of evidence throughout the project?

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THESIS STATEMENT (What am I trying to prove? Be sure to write your answer as a complete sentence, not a question or a phrase.)

CLAIM #4

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #4

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

CLAIM #5

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #5

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

CONCLUSION

Do your claims make an effective case for your thesis? Do they lead to your conclusion?
Does your conclusion connect back to your thesis?

TITLE (What is a short, effective title that captures the essence of my thesis and gives the viewer an idea of the project's argument?)

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THESIS STATEMENT (What am I trying to prove? Be sure to write your answer as a complete sentence, not a question or a phrase.)

Context/Background

What Happened?

What Happened?

SHORT SUBHEADING OR MAIN IDEA

CLAIM #1

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #1

- 1.
- 2.
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- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

SHORT SUBHEADING OR MAIN IDEA

CLAIM #2

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #2

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

Does your evidence connect persuasively to your claim and your thesis?

SHORT SUBHEADING OR MAIN IDEA

CLAIM #3

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

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Impact

Impact

Change over time

Historical Significance

SHORT SUBHEADING OR MAIN IDEA

CLAIM #4

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #4

1.

2.

3.

What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

- Primary source
- Secondary source
- My own interpretation

What type(s)? (photo, map, quote, etc.)

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SHORT SUBHEADING OR MAIN IDEA

CLAIM #5

EVIDENCE that supports Claim #5

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2.

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What kind(s) of evidence are you using?

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Does your conclusion connect back to your thesis?