**Thematic Statement Examples**

What to avoid when writing a thematic statement

1. Don’t write only one single word. That’s the subject, not the theme.
2. Don’t mention what happened in the story in your thematic statement.

e.g. The theme is that prejudice is hurtful because the Star-Sneetches only accepted Sneetches who looked like themselves and that made the others sad.

1. Don’t mention that you are answering a question about what the theme is, or what the author believes, or what the protagonist learned.

e.g. I feel that one of the messages in the story is people are people and should overlook superficial difference and accept one another.

e.g. I think that the author believes that all people are valuable.

1. Don’t be obvious or vague.

e.g. There is discrimination in the world.  
e.g. Sometimes, people don’t accept other people because of how they look.

Text: The Sneetches

Thematic Subjects: Prejudice

Thematic Statement:

You should judge people by how they act, not based on what they look like.

It doesn’t matter what someone looks like; we are all people. Just because you have something that other’s don’t, doesn’t mean that your life is more valuable than theirs.

Evidence from the text:  
The Star Sneetches thought they were better than the plain Sneetches just because they had no stars. At the end, they learned that a Sneetch is a Sneetch with or without a star.

Thematic Subjects: Acceptance of others

Thematic Statement:

When pe0ple look past each other’s superficial differences, they often find that they’re actually not that different after all.

Evidence from the text:  
The Sneetches forget about stars and whether they had one or not, and learned to accept that Sneetches are Sneetches.

Thematic Subjects: Consumerism

Thematic Statement:

If you always try to adopt the latest popular trend, you’ll forever be desperately changing who you are in order to fit in.

Evidence from the text:  
The Sneetches kept paying McBean to change their bellies so they could be in style, but the minute they changed, the others would say that the new change was now out of style. They kept doing it over and over until they were exhausted and broke.