

Generate a Theme Statement

Step 1

Generate a list of topics relevant to the story.

- List ideas that are representative of character actions.
 - Consider the life skills or personality traits characters demonstrated.
 - Recall events/situations and how characters reacted to them.
 - Reflect on significant choices characters made.
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Step 2

Complete the sentence: *The author believes that...*

- Include "what" lesson is learned and "why" it is important.
 - Avoid specific references to details about characters, setting, or plot.
 - Utilize general references like *a person, someone, an individual, people*, etc.
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Step 3

Cross off the words *The author believes that...*

- Edit the remaining sentence, capitalizing the first word.
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with Textual Evidence

Step 4

Add textual evidence.

- Use phrases like *According to the text... One place the author shows this is...*
 - Reference specific characters, events, actions, words, etc. from the text.
 - Provide 2-3 different textual details to support the theme statement.
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