



## WORKSHEET: CRAFTING MY THESIS MAD LIBS

**Directions:** Once you've started your beginning topic research, fill out Steps 1 and 2. You should complete Steps 3 and 4 after you've done additional secondary source research into your topic. Step 5 will help you revise your thesis statement – you should wait until you feel like you are “done” with your research to fill in these steps. Remember this is just a guide!

**STEP 1: DRAFT** Create a first draft of your History Day thesis in three sentences. Replace the underlines with your own words answering the questions in parentheses.

**Sentence 1: Before Your Main Event**

In \_\_\_\_\_ (*time-period*) the issue in \_\_\_\_\_ (*place*) was \_\_\_\_\_ (*problem*).

**Sentence 2: The Five W's**

In/On \_\_\_\_\_ (*specific year/date*) \_\_\_\_\_ (*who: person/group*) \_\_\_\_\_ (*what the person/ group did*) because/in order to \_\_\_\_\_ (*why/motivation*).

**Sentence 3: Impact in History**

Shortly after, \_\_\_\_\_ (*describe short-term impact/s*).  
This changed history because/by \_\_\_\_\_ (*describe long-term impact/s*).

**STEP 2: COMBINE** Combine your sentences into one thesis. Copy your finished sentences from above without the describing words in parentheses. Paste them into the box below. Keep your sentences in the same order.

# OHIO HISTORY DAY

**STEP 3: BRAINSTORM THEME** Brainstorm your theme connection. Fill in the blanks with your own words.

**Debate and Diplomacy:** There was a debate between \_\_\_\_\_ (*two or more people or groups*) over \_\_\_\_\_ (*topic*) because \_\_\_\_\_ (*the reason for debate*). To resolve the issue, the different sides \_\_\_\_\_ (*diplomatic effort and/or debate*) through \_\_\_\_\_ (*methods of communication*). This resulted in \_\_\_\_\_ (*results of diplomatic exchange or debate*). It was a \_\_\_\_\_ (*Success and/or Failure*) because \_\_\_\_\_ (*short or long-term consequences*).

**STEP 4: ADD IN THEME** Copy your thesis from the box in Step 2. Paste in the box below. Think about where the theme fits in your thesis. Revise your thesis to include your ideas on debate and diplomacy from Step 3. Think about whether the debate or diplomatic effort was a success or failure, and what consequences resulted.

**STEP 5: REVISE** Your thesis statement is a work in progress. Copy your thesis statement from Step 4. Paste in the box below. Edit your thesis to make changes. Think about making your argument stronger, as well as adding in any new supporting evidence from your research.