

LEARNING STRATEGIES:

Note-taking, Drafting, Sharing and Responding, Revising

My Notes

Learning Targets

- Construct a thesis statement that answers a research question.
- Collaboratively plan and organize research ideas into a coherent presentation.

Language and Writer’s Craft: Writing a Thesis Statement

Now that you have collected sources that support your major research question, create a comprehensive thesis statement for your presentation. The thesis statement includes the following criteria:

- It answers the major research question.
- It reflects an opinion that can be argued with reasoning and evidence from your source.
- It provides the organization of ideas.

1. Study these sample research questions and the thesis statements that answer each question. In your discussion groups, analyze how each statement meets the requirements of an effective thesis statement.

Research Question	Thesis Statement
<i>How did Alain Locke contribute to the Harlem Renaissance movement?</i>	Alain Locke, an influential leader of the Harlem Renaissance, instilled purpose and responsibility into the young writers of the time with his essays and leadership.
<i>Why was jazz music such an influential art form during the Harlem Renaissance?</i>	Reflecting the historical context and daily life of the Harlem Renaissance, jazz music gave musicians a new outlet of expression.
Major question: <i>Why were Jessie Redmon Fauset’s novels viewed with dismissive criticism during the Harlem Renaissance?</i> Secondary question: <i>Why is her work being revisited today?</i>	Jessie Redmon Fauset, whose Harlem Renaissance novels were received with mixed reviews when they were first released, is now viewed as one of America’s first black feminist writers for her portrayal of race relations and black women.

Literary Terms

Coherence is the quality of unity or logical connection among ideas. Writers achieve **internal coherence** within paragraphs and **external coherence** between paragraphs with effective transitions and transitional devices.

Presenting Your Research

As you prepare to present your research, keep these questions in mind.

- What is important about the information from each resource in relation to the thesis?
- What information supports the thesis?
- What organizational structure will you use to create **coherence**?
- How will you maintain an academic voice?
- What strategy will your group use to introduce your research and make it engaging and informative?
- How will you conclude your presentation? What will you say about the topic and what it means in relation to the Harlem Renaissance? Is there a connection to a larger meaning about life in general?

