

Thesis Development – this is certainly not the only method, but if you need a new way to approach the thesis (and topic sentence for that matter), this helps.

What + Active Verb + Concept

What = something you observed, a topic, or even part of your concept

Active Verb = a word that your “What” does:

Conveys, portrays, creates, represents, results in, indicates, demonstrates, means, symbolizes, suggests, analyzes, supposes, insinuates, proves, mirrors, evokes – *to name only a few*

Concept = this is your idea, theory, or belief that you will prove in your essay or paragraph.

For example:

What: The main characters in *Lord of the Flies* experience loss of identity that

Active Verb: results in

Concept: the devastation and death that prevail.

Thesis: The main characters in Lord of the Flies experience loss of identity that results in the devastation and death that prevail on the island.