**Chunk One: 5 minutes**
Lecture/Discuss: what are the parts of an effective thesis statement?
- Clear--Avoid vague words such as "interesting," "negative," "exciting," "unusual," and "difficult." Avoid abstract words such as "society," "values," or "culture."
- Specific--Your thesis should be limited to what can be accomplished in the specified number of pages. Shape your topic so that you can get straight to the "meat" of it. Being specific in your paper will be much more successful than writing about general things that do not say much.
- Apparent--Avoid burying a great thesis statement in the middle of a paragraph or late in the paper.
- Position--Do not just announce the topic reveal what position you will take in relation to that topic.

**Chunk Two: (25 minutes)**
Group work
1. Pair students up into 4-5 groups
2. Pass out “bad” thesis statements. Do not tell them it is bad.
3. Students critique the thesis statement in their group. (2-3 minutes)
4. Bring whole class back together and ask the students what they think about their statements. (1 minute per group)
   a. Have someone read the thesis out loud. **Good practice to read your writings out loud to make sure it makes sense.
   b. Is it a good thesis?
   c. Why or why not?
5. Have students go back together as a group and rewrite the thesis statement. (5 minutes)
6. Bring whole class back together and ask the students what they think about their statements. (2 minute per group)
   a. Have someone read the new thesis out loud.
   b. Class critique.

**Chunk Three: (7 minutes)**
Work in Pairs
1. Pair students, turn to peer next to you and take out your essay.
2. Exchange thesis statements and help each other rewrite if necessary.

**Chunk Four: (5 minutes)**
Lecture/Discuss: Remember good writing goes beyond just a great thesis.
1. Each sentence should focus on the most important idea you are trying to get across within a given paragraph.
2. Being verbose does not mean you will get a better grade. If you overly use adverbs and adjectives it actually takes away from the sentence.
3. Avoid the passive voice.
4. Use the past tense when you are discussing an event from the past.
5. Always connect your 1st paragraph to your last paragraph.
6. Use quotes/summarizing/paraphrasing as evidence.
7. Make sure your pronouns are referring back to the correct noun.