The Five Question Thesis Test

1. Does the thesis inspire a reader to ask, "How?" or "Why?"

2. Does the thesis **NOT** inspire a reader to respond, "Who cares?"

3. Does the thesis avoid generalizing and sweeping words such as "all" or "none" or "every"?

4. Does the thesis lead the reader toward the main reasons in the argument (the subtopics needed to prove the thesis)?

5. Can the thesis be adequately developed in the required length of the essay?

If you cannot answer "YES" to all of these questions, revise the thesis until you can.