

Question: Evaluate the extent the Civil War represented a revolution in American society

THESIS TYPES:

1. **Simple thesis:** “The Civil War was a revolution in American society.” (Rating: poor)

- Thesis is far too simplistic. It contains no partition or analysis.

2. **Complex-simple thesis:** “In some respects, Americans experienced profound changes during the war. After the war, it was clear that society had also been changed dramatically in a number of important areas.” (Rating: fair)

- The analytical aspect of the thesis is promising. However, no partition is established. The thesis does not establish how American society was changed by the war.

3. **Simple-split thesis:** “The Civil War was a revolution in America politically, socially, and constitutionally.” (Rating: fair)

- Thesis provides a partition: politics, society, and the Constitution.
- Thesis lacks an explanation or general analysis in each of the three areas in the partition.
- Note: This thesis would be a “simple thesis” if the question already contained a partition.

4. **Complex-split thesis:** "Politically, the war established the supremacy of the Republican party in national politics for much of the next fifty years. Socially, the war saw significant gains in African American rights. And constitutionally, the war established the supremacy of the federal government over the states. Thus, the Civil War did in fact represent a political, social and constitutional revolution in America." (Rating: superior)