CHOOSING A TITLE FOR A THEME

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As you have narrowed down your subject and gathered ample substance for its development, you may begin thinking of a suitable title for your composition. If the right title does not occur to you at this stage, it will be reasonable to wait until after you have planned and written your paper.

A title is a word or a group of words placed before a composition; its relationship to the subject is usually close but not necessarily direct and apparent. A title is different from a subject. A teacher who has asked you to wrote on “the College Sorority Ball” has assigned you a subject, not a title. It is your task to think of a more specific, interesting and attractive title.

A serious expository or argumentative composition is normally entitled with one which has a direct and obvious connection to the topic. Such titles, mat be “the Structure if a Comet,” How to make an Ice Cream Soda,” or “Conscription vs. Democracy.” For instance, “I’ll remember it in a Minute” is the title of Corey Ford’s light-hearted familiar essay on the problem of forgetfulness. A title may even be a word or phrase in the composition itself; in which case, your selection will have to be done after the theme has been completed.

A well-chosen title attracts the reader’s attention. Many books, articles, or stories are read because of their interesting and attractive titles. An effective title is reasonable brief, original and definite. Choose your title with care; it is your first chance to win or lose your reader.
References:

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