HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: “Set the Stage”

Transition to Thesis: One- Two Sentence(s)

Thesis Statement:

 **READ CAREFULLY!**

* **Historical Background** should “set the stage” for your thesis statement. It should provide your reader with background information on the essay topic that will help them better understand your argument. In a 5-paragraph essay, the historical background should be brief, and help the reader form a broad base of knowledge on the subject.
* The **transition** should be a sentence that provides a bridge between historical background and your thesis. This sentence allows for the paragraph to flow nicely, making it easy to read and understand.
* A **thesis statement** is a sentence that outlines your argument for the paper. It should include a clear and specific answer to the question, as well as your three specific supporting topics that will prove your argument.