Definition

A statement is a definition when it describes something so well that it can only be that one thing.
Good Definition or Bad Definition

A statement is a good definition when you can’t think of another example that might fit in the definition.

A statement is a bad definition when you can think of just one other thing or many other things that could also fit in the definition besides what you are trying to define.
Good & Bad Definitions

Here is an example of a good definition.

A pencil is a tool that uses lead to write and usually has an eraser.

This is a good definition because no other writing tool fits in this definition.

Here is an example of a bad definition.

A pencil is a tool used for writing.

This is a bad definition because there are many tools for writing such as a pen or a marker.
Good & Bad

Geometry Definitions

Here is an example of a good definition from geometry.

A parallelogram is a four-sided figure that has two pairs of parallel sides and their opposite angles are equal.

This is a good definition because no other four-sided figure fits this definition that is not a parallelogram.

Here is an example of a bad definition.

A parallelogram is a four-sided figure.

This is a bad example because any figure that has four sides fits this definition.
A statement is a **PROPERTY** when it describes only one trait of something.
A definition is a combination of properties. So, definitions are always properties, but not all properties are definitions.

Here is an easy way to tell the difference between a definition and a property. If you can think of something else that also fits the statement then the statement is a property and not a definition.
Here are some examples of properties that are not definitions.

A frame is an object that you put pictures in. This is a property of a frame, because you can also put pictures in an album.

A rectangle is a four-sided figure. This must also be a property because we know that a kite has four sides, but it is not a rectangle.