

They Say, I Say Templates

INTRODUCING POSITIONS IMPLIED OR ASSUMED

- Although X does not say so directly, she/he apparently assumes that _____.
- While they rarely admit as much, _____ often take for granted that _____.

INTRODUCING AN ONGOING DEBATE

- In discussions of X, one controversial issue has been _____. On the one hand, _____ argues _____. On the other hand, _____ even contends _____.
- When it comes to the topics of _____, most people will readily agree that _____. Where this agreement usually ends, however, is on the question of _____. Whereas some are convinced that _____, others maintain that _____.
- As suggested earlier, defenders of _____ cannot have it both ways. Their assertion that _____ is contradicted by their claim that _____.

CAPTURING AUTHORS' POSITIONS

- X acknowledges that _____.
- X agrees that _____.
- X argues that _____.
- X complains that _____.
- X demonstrates that _____.
- X emphasizes that _____.
- X believes that _____.
- X claims that _____.
- X concedes that _____.
- X insists that _____.
- X observes that _____.
- X questions whether _____.
- X refutes the claim that _____.
- X reminds the reader that _____.
- X reports that _____.
- X suggests that _____.
- X urges people to _____.
- X states that “_____.”
- According to X, “_____.”
- X writes, “_____.”
- In her/his (book, essay, report, memoir) _____, X maintains that “_____.”
- In X’s view, “_____.”
- X agrees when she/he writes, “_____.”
- X disagrees when she/he writes, “_____.”
- X complicates the matters further when she/he writes, “_____.”

EXPLAINING QUOTATIONS

- Basically, X is saying _____.
- In other words, X believes _____.
- In making this comment, X argues that _____.
- X is insisting that _____.
- X's point is that _____.

DISAGREEING – WITH REASONS

- X is mistaken because he/she overlooks _____.
- X's claim that _____ rests upon the questionable assumption that _____.
- X's view that _____ is incorrect because, as recent research (personal experience) has shown, _____.
- By focusing on _____, X overlooks the deeper problem of _____.
- X claims _____, but society doesn't need him/her to tell us that. Anyone familiar with _____ has long known that _____.

AGREEING—WITH REASONS

- X is surely right about _____ because, as he/she may not be aware, recent studies have shown that _____.
- X's theory of _____ is extremely useful because it sheds insight on the difficult problem of _____.
- I agree that _____, a point that needs emphasizing since so many people believe _____.

AGREEING AND DISAGREEING SIMULTANEOUSLY

- Although X is correct to a point, overall his/her conclusion that _____ is invalid because _____.
- Although _____ would disagree with much of what X says, he/she/they would fully endorse his/her final conclusion that _____.
- Though X would concede that _____, he/she would still insist that _____.
- X is right that _____, but her/his idea(s) seems questionable when she/he states _____.

COMMONLY USED TRANSITIONS

Cause and Effect

Accordingly
As a result
Consequently
Hence
It follows, then
Since
So
Then
Therefore
Thus

Conclusion

As a result
Consequently
Hence
In conclusion, then
In short
In sum, then
It follows, then
So
The upshot of all this is that
Therefore
Thus
To sum up
To summarize

Comparison

Along the same lines
In the same way
Likewise
Similarly

Contrast

Although
But
By contrast
Conversely
Despite the fact that
Even though
However
In contrast
Nevertheless
Nonetheless
On the contrary
On the other hand
Regardless
Whereas
While
Yet

Addition

Also
And
Besides
Furthermore
In addition
In fact
Indeed
Moreover
So too

Concession

Admittedly
Although it is true that
Granted
I concede that
Of course
Naturally
To be sure

Example

After all
As an illustration
Consider
For example
For instance
Specifically
To take a case in point

Elaboration

Actually
By extension
In short
That is
In other words
To put it in another way
To put it bluntly
To put it succinctly
Ultimately