



## Tips for Writers • Introducing Sources

**USEFUL TEMPLATES<sup>1</sup>**--Need help incorporating your sources and/or making certain rhetorical moves in your paper? These templates might help!

<sup>1</sup> Courtesy the Odegaard Writing & Research Center (<http://www.depts.washington.edu/owrc>) Adapted from Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say, I Say: The Moves That Matter In Academic Writing*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2006.

### INTRODUCING “STANDARD VIEWS”

- Americans today tend to believe that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Conventional wisdom has it that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Common sense seems to dictate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- The standard way of thinking about topic X has it that \_\_\_\_\_.
- It is often said that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Many people assumed that \_\_\_\_\_.

### INTRODUCING AN ONGOING DEBATE

- In discussions of X, one controversial issue has been \_\_\_\_\_. On one hand, \_\_\_\_\_ argues \_\_\_\_\_. On the other hand, \_\_\_\_\_ contends \_\_\_\_\_. Others even maintain \_\_\_\_\_.
- When it comes to the topic of \_\_\_\_\_, most of us will readily agree that \_\_\_\_\_. Where this agreement usually ends, however, is on the question of \_\_\_\_\_. Whereas some are convinced that \_\_\_\_\_; others maintain that \_\_\_\_\_.
- In conclusion then, as I suggested earlier, defenders of \_\_\_\_\_ can't have it both ways. Their assertion that \_\_\_\_\_ in contradicted by their claim that \_\_\_\_\_.

### INTRODUCING WHAT “THEY SAY” (Introducing expert theories)

- A number of sociologists have recently suggested that X's work has several fundamental problems.
- It has become common today to dismiss X's contribution to this field of sociology.
- In their recent work, Y and Z have offered harsh critiques of Dr. X for \_\_\_\_\_.

### INTRODUCING QUOTATIONS (“I” in I.C.E.)

- X states, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- As the prominent philosopher X puts it, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- According to X, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- X himself writes, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- In her book, \_\_\_\_\_, X maintains that “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- Writing the journal *Commentary*, X complains that, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- In X's view, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- X agrees when she writes, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- X disagrees when he writes, “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- X complicates matters further when he writes, “\_\_\_\_\_.”

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### EXPLAINING QUOTATIONS (“E” in I.C.E.)

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

### ESTABLISHING WHY YOUR CLAIM MATTERS

- X matters/is important because \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although X may seem trivial, it is in fact crucial in terms of today’s concern over \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ultimately, what is at stake here is \_\_\_\_\_.
- These findings have important consequences for the broader domain of \_\_\_\_\_.
- These conclusions/This discovery will have significant applications in \_\_\_\_\_ as well as in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although X may seem of concern to only a small group of \_\_\_\_\_, it should in fact concern anyone who cares about \_\_\_\_\_.

### INTRODUCING OPPONENTS

- Yet some readers may challenge the view that \_\_\_\_\_. After all, many believe \_\_\_\_\_. Indeed, the argument presented in this essay that \_\_\_\_\_ seems to ignore \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Of course, many will probably disagree with this assertion that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nevertheless, both followers and critics of Malcolm X will probably argue that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although not all Christians think alike, some of them will probably dispute this essay’s claim that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Non-native English speakers are so diverse in their views that it’s hard to generalize about them, but some are likely to object on the grounds that \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISAGREEING, WITH REASONS

- X is mistaken because she overlooks \_\_\_\_\_.
- X’s claim that \_\_\_\_\_ rests upon the questionable assumption that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X’s view that \_\_\_\_\_ is flawed because, as recent research has shown, \_\_\_\_\_.
- X contradicts herself/can’t have it both ways. On the one hand, she argues \_\_\_\_\_. But on the other hand, she also says \_\_\_\_\_.
- By focusing on \_\_\_\_\_, X overlooks the deeper problem of \_\_\_\_\_.

### AGREEING AND DISAGREEING SIMULTANEOUSLY

- Although X is correct up to a point, his overall conclusion is flawed in that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although much of what X says is unfounded, his final conclusion that \_\_\_\_\_ makes a strong point.
- X is right that \_\_\_\_\_, but she seems on more dubious ground when she claims that \_\_\_\_\_.
- While X is probably wrong when she claims that \_\_\_\_\_, she is right that \_\_\_\_\_.

### MAKING CONCESSIONS WHILE STILL STANDING YOUR GROUND

- Proponents of X are right to argue that \_\_\_\_\_. But they exaggerate when they claim that \_\_\_\_\_.
- While it is true that \_\_\_\_\_, it does not necessarily follow that \_\_\_\_\_.
- On the one hand, this essay agrees with X that \_\_\_\_\_. But on the other hand, it still insists that \_\_\_\_\_.

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