



Templates: Phrases that you can use to set up your argument. These phrases are guidelines for writing, NOT the rule. Feel free to adapt these phrases using your own words.

Templates for using a quote from the essay you are RESPONDING to...

According to X in his essay "Yxx Yaaa Yww," summary. . .
 . . . or quote .

X states, "-----."

As the prominent philosopher X puts it, "-----."

In her book/essay -----, x maintains that
 "-----";

In X's view, "-----."

Templates for setting up a PARAPHRASE from the essay...

Basically, x is saying -----.

In other words, x believes -----.

X argues that -----.

X's point is that -----.

The essence of X's argument is that -----.

Templates for AGREEING

I agree that ----- because my experience

X is right about ----- because -----

X's argument about ----- is useful because

Templates for DISAGREEING

Although X (claims, says, proposes,) _____, my experience demonstrates that _____

While X says that _____, the facts show that _____.

I think X is mistaken because she overlooks _____.

X's claim that ----- rests upon the questionable assumption that -----

I disagree with X's view that ----- because -----

By focusing on -----, X overlooks -----

X claims -----, but -----

Templates for showing how you are "IN THE MIDDLE"

Although I agree with X up to a point, I cannot accept his overall conclusion that -----

Although I disagree with much that x says, I fully agree with him when he argues -----

X is right about -----, but her argument is more questionable when she claims _____

I'm of two minds about X's claim that ----- . On the one hand, I agree that ----- . On the other hand, I'm not sure if -----

My feelings on the issue are mixed. I do support X's position that -----, but I find Y's argument about ----- to be persuasive because -----

Templates for addressing the OPPOSITION...

Some college students would challenge my view here saying ----- . What they fail to consider

is -----

Of course, some would disagree with my argument about
----- saying -----, but

Here, X would object to my argument, saying
-----, but -----

X would dispute my claim, saying
-----, but

X argues, “-----.” Although he is
right about -----, he is not considering
-----.

Although I will grant that -----, I still maintain that

X is right to argue that -----, but he ignores

While it is true what X says about -----, this
does not mean -----

On the one hand, I agree with X that -----.
But on the other hand, I still argue that -----