**Sentence Templates**

Our words are very important, especially when it comes to creating strong, thoughtful papers. Many times, the format is foreign, and assistance is needed to take that next step with sentence structure. These suggestions are here for just that: to suggest. Please note there are hundreds of other ways for writers to say what they want. Also, please make sure the sentence flows after using these. If it does not flow, tweak the sentence until it works.

**Introducing what “they” say**

- **Negative**
  - 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 the field of sociology.
  - In their recent work, Y and Z have offered harsh critiques of X for ________.
- **Positive**
  - In many circles, X has been heralded by the leaders of this industry for his or her ideas on ________.
  - Y and Z offer high praise in their most recent work for X’s thoughts on ________.

**Introducing the “standard view”**

- 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/thought/believed that ________.
- Many people assumed that ________.

**Introducing something implied or assumed**

- Although none of them have ever said so directly, teachers often give the impression that ________.
- One implication of X’s treatment of ________ is that ________.
- Although X does not say so directly, she apparently assumes that ________.
- While he rarely admits as much, Y often takes for granted that ________.

**Introducing an ongoing debate**

- In discussions of X, one controversial issue has been ________. On the one hand, ________ argues ________ , while on the other hand, ________ presents that ________. Others even maintain ________.
- When it comes to the topic of ________, most would readily agree that ________. Where this agreement usually ends, however, is on the question of ________. Where some are convinced that ________, others maintain that ________.
- As suggested previously, defenders of ________ cannot have it both ways. Their assertion that ________ is contradicted by their claim that ________.
Introducing quotations

- X states, “______.”
- As the prominent philosopher X puts it, “______.”
- According to X, “______.”
- X himself writes, “______.”
- In her book, _______, X maintains that “______.”
- Writing in the journal _______, X complains that “______.”
- In X’s view, “______.”
- X agrees when she writes, “______.”
- X disagrees when he writes, “______.”
- X complicates matters further when 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 _______.
- The essence of X’s argument is that _______.

Disagreeing, with reasons

- X is mistaken because she overlooks _______.
- X’s claim that _______ rests upon the questionable assumption that _______.
- X contradicts herself/cannot have it both ways. On the one hand, she argues _______. However, on the other hand, she also presents _______.
- By focusing on _______, X overlooks the deeper problem of _______.
- X claims _______, but this claim is unnecessary. Anyone familiar with _______ has long known that _______.

Agreeing—with a difference

- X is surely right about _______ because, as 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 _______.
- _______ is a point that needs emphasizing since so many people believe _______.
- Those unfamiliar with this school of thought may be interested to know that, in simplest terms, it is _______.
- If group X is right that _______, then the popular assumption of _______ needs to be reassessed.

Agreeing and disagreeing simultaneously

- Although X’s argument is agreeable to a point, his overall conclusion of _______ is unacceptable.
- While X says many things that can be disproved, his final conclusion of _______ can be supported.
- Though it can be conceded that _______, it must be insisted that _______.
• Whereas X provides ample evidence that______, Y and Z’s research on_______ and_______ points to the conclusion_______ instead.
• X is right that______, but she seems on more dubious ground when she claims that______.
• While X is probably wrong when she claims that_______, her claim that_______ seems to be sound.

**Signal phrases**

• X argues______.
• According to both X and Y,______.
• Most athletes will say that______.
• But_______ is real and, arguably, the most significant factor in______.
• X is wrong in that______.
• However, it is simply not true that______.
• Indeed, it is highly likely that______.
• The view that_______ does not fit all the facts______.
• X is right/wrong that______.
• A sober analysis of the matter reveals______.
• Nevertheless, new research shows______.
• Anyone familiar with_______ should see that______.

**Embedding voice markers**

• X overlooks what is considered an important point about______.
• These conclusions, which X discusses in______, add weight to the argument that______.

**Entertaining objections**

• Yet, some individuals may challenge the view that_______. After all, many believe_______. A sound argument for_______ must not ignore_______ and_______.
• Of course, many would probably disagree with this assertion on the grounds that______.

**Naming your naysayers**

• Here, many feminists would probably object that______.
• However, social Darwinists would certainly take issues with the argument that______.
• Biologists, of course, may want to dispute the claim that_______.
• Nevertheless, both followers and critics of Malcolm X will probably argue that______.
• Although not all Christians think alike, many would probably dispute the claim that______.
• Non-native English speakers are so diverse in their views that it is hard to generalize about them, but some are likely to object on the grounds that______.

**Making concessions while still standing your ground**

• Proponents of X are right to argue that_______. However, they exaggerate when they claim that______.
• While it is true that_______, it does not necessarily follow that______.
Indicating who cares

• __________ used to think __________. Recently/within the past few decades, __________ suggests that __________.
• What this new research does, then, is correct the mistaken impression held by many researchers that __________.
• These findings challenge the work of earlier researchers, who assumed that __________.
• Recent studies like these shed new light on __________, which previous studies had not addressed.
• Researchers have long assumed that __________. For instance, one eminent scholar of cell biology, __________, assumes in __________, her seminal work on cell structures and functions, that fat cells __________. As __________, herself, puts it, “__” (citation). Another leading scientist, __________, argues that fat cells “________” (citation). Ultimately, in previous years, when it came down to the nature of fat, the basic assumption was that __________. Recently, a new body of research shows that fat cells are far more complex and that __________.
• If sports enthusiasts stopped to think about it, many of them might simply assume that the most successful athletes __________. However, new research shows __________.
• These findings challenge dieters’ common assumptions that __________.
• At first glance, teenagers appear to __________. On closer inspection, they __________.

Establishing why your claims matter

• 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 scope of __________.
• The discussion of X is, in fact, addressing the larger issue of __________.
• Although X may seem to be a concern to only a small group of __________, it should concern anyone who cares about __________.

Adding meta-commentary

• In other words, __________.
• What __________ really means by this is __________.
• To put it another way, __________.
• In short, __________.
• For example, __________.
• This is not to say __________, but rather __________.
• Incidentally, __________.

Source: