

Scholar's Guide to Discourse

In other words, helpful hints to “talking right” during academic activities, stations, professional conversations, and arguments that you want to win.



SITUATION	WHAT TO SAY
State claim/ idea	After analyzing the facts, my answer to the question is... After closely reading the source(s), my opinion is... My answer is _____. My reasons include _____.
Acknowledge other's ideas	That's an interesting point about... Your point has made me question...
Provide evidence	According to _____ the facts are... The evidence that supports my claim/idea is...
Compromise	While I think we can take this in many different directions, let's focus our attention on... Although we don't agree on everything, I believe we can all agree that...
Reasoning	If _____, then _____, because... When _____, then _____ is the result.
Synthesize	One pattern I notice is... This trend/pattern reveals _____ about...