Templates for Responding to Arguments

from Chapters 4 and 5 of *They Say, I Say*

by Graff and Birkenstein

**Disagreeing with an Argument, with Reasons**

* X is mistaken because she overlooks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* X's claim that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, rests upon the questionable assumption that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I disagree with X's view that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because, as recent research has shown, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* By focusing on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, X overlooks the deeper problem of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Agreeing with an Argument, with Differences**

* I agree that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* X is surely right about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because recent studies have shown that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* X's theory of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is extremely useful because it sheds light on the problem of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* I agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a point that needs emphasizing since so many people still believe that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* If Group X is right that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as I think they are, then we need to reasses the assumption that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Agreeing & Disagreeing Simultaneously**

* Though I concede that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I still insist that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Whereas X provides ample evidence that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Y and Z's research on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ convinces me that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead.

**Distinguishing "Their" Argument from Yours**

* My view, however, contrary to what X has argued, is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Adding to X's argument, I would point out that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* My own view is that what X insists is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is in fact a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* These conclusions, which X discusses in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, add weight to the argument that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.