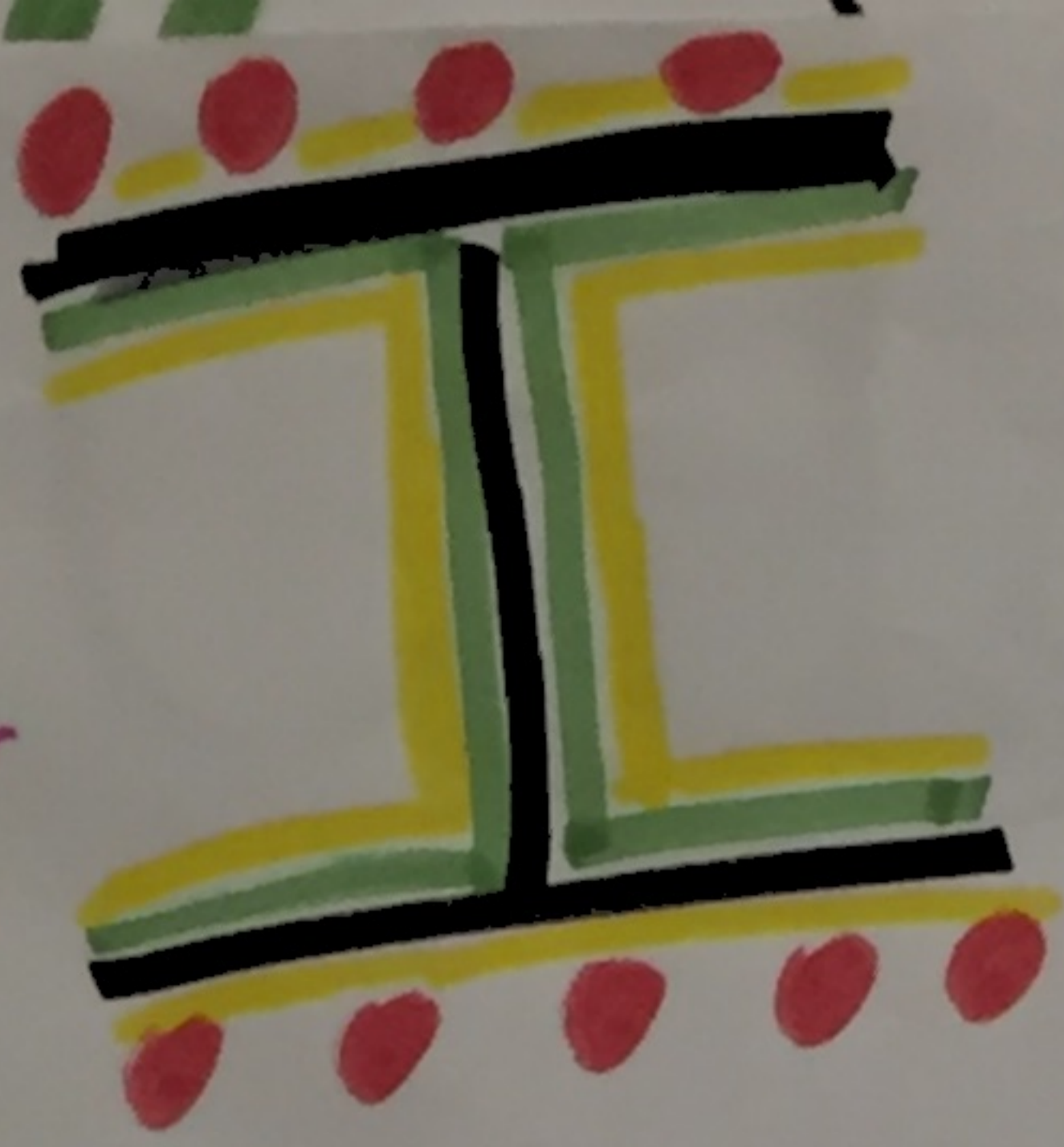


\*state author



introduce

\*state title of source

\* According to author in the  
his  
her  
article title, " ... "

\* In the  
his  
her article title, author  
says, " ... "

\* Based on author's article  
title, " ... "

\* Author explains in the  
his  
her  
article title that " ... "

## Sentence Templates + Transitions

Derived from Graff and Birkenstein's crazy-helpful *They Say, I Say*

Remember: the templates below are meant to "be direct with [you] about the key rhetorical moves that [critical thinking] comprises" (Graff & Birkenstein, 2010). Think of them as moves in a video game or a sport—the better we get at the game or sport, the more comfortable we get with knowing when and how to use a move best.

With that said, play around with these, notice how they are used in the writings of others, and determine that you will grow as an arguer this year.

And remember this, too: argument is hard, and hard means we get to grow rapidly if we dare to go all in.

### Introducing What an Author Says

- X acknowledges that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X agrees that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X argues that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X believes that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X denies/does not deny that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X claims that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X complains that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X concedes that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X demonstrates that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X celebrates the fact that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X insists that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X questions whether \_\_\_\_\_.
- X reminds us that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X reports that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Introducing "Standard Views"

- Americans today tend to believe that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Common sense seems to say that \_\_\_\_\_.
- It is often said that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Many people assume that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Introducing an Ongoing Debate

- In discussions of \_\_\_\_\_, one controversial issue has been \_\_\_\_\_. On the one hand, \_\_\_\_\_ argues \_\_\_\_\_. On the other hand, \_\_\_\_\_ opposes \_\_\_\_\_. Others even believe \_\_\_\_\_. My own view is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_. While some are convinced that \_\_\_\_\_, others believe that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Using a Quotation (i.e., Backing up your argument with proof)

- X states, "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - Example: Standage states, "Some [drinks] have served to highlight the power and status of the elite" (2).
- According to X, "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - According to Standage, "Wine was the lifeblood of [Greece]" (3).
- X himself writes, "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - Standage himself writes, "Six beverages... chart the flow of world history" (2).
  - Odysseus himself says, "I longed for sweet Penelope" (9.21).
- In his book, \_\_\_\_\_, X maintains that "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - In his book, *A History of the World in Six Glasses*, Standage maintains that "Greek and Roman knowledge... had been safeguarded and extended by scholars in the Arab world" (4).
- Writing in the magazine \_\_\_\_\_, X complains that "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - Writing in the online magazine *Salon*, Weitz complains that "reality television is little more than gladiatorial combat" (3).
- X agrees when she writes, "\_\_\_\_\_" ( ).
  - I believe wine was the most influential drink in history. Standage agrees when he writes, "Wine was the lifeblood of [Greece]" (4).

### Explaining a Quotation (i.e., Showing that you understand what the quote says)

- Basically, X is saying \_\_\_\_\_.
- In other words, X believes \_\_\_\_\_.
- In making this comment, X urges us to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In making this comment, Cepeda urges us to look consider whether we do, actually, like hard work.
- X's point is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- The essence of X's argument is that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Naming Your Naysayers or Opponents (i.e., Introducing your rebuttal)

- Here many \_\_\_\_\_ would probably object that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Here many proponents of choice reading would probably object that complex texts destroy the enjoyment of reading.
- Of course, \_\_\_\_\_s would certainly take issue with the argument that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Of course, antiglobalization activists would certainly take issue with the argument that globalization helps out developing countries.
- \_\_\_\_\_s, of course, may want to question whether \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Patriots, of course, may want to question whether the United States is acting out of selfish motives in its wars overseas.
- Nevertheless, critics of \_\_\_\_\_ will probably argue that \_\_\_\_\_.