Introducing Quotations:

- “X states, __________.”
- As the prominent philosopher X puts it, “________.”
- According to X, “________.”
- Writing in the journal Commentary, X complains that “________.”
- X agrees/disagrees when he/she writes “______.”

Explaining Quotations:

- Use language that reflects the “spirit” of the quoted passage.
  - Note the tone of the passage
- In other words, X believes __________.
- X is warning that ________________.
- In making this comment, X is urging us to ________.

Responding to Quotations

Disagree & Explain Why

- 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 ________.

Agree but with a difference

- Do more than just echo the views you agree with.
- Even though you’re agreeing, bring something fresh or new to the table.
- Participate, don’t just echo.
  - Point out unnoticed line of argument or evidence
  - Cite other type of evidence that shows your agreement
  - Translate or explain to readers who might not be familiar with a controversial or esoteric argument.

I agree…

- 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 light on the difficult problem of ________.
- Those unfamiliar with this school of thought may be interested to know that this boils down to ________.

I agree with you but disagree with someone else (Agree with one view while challenging another)

- If group X is right that __________, as I think they are, then we need to reassess the popular assumption that __________.

Ok, but… (“Yes and No.”)

- Although I agree with X that __________, I cannot accept his assumption that __________.
- Emphasis on disagreement
- Although I disagree with much of what X says, I fully endorse his final conclusion __________.
- Emphasis on agreement

Yes, but… & No, but…

- X is right that __________, but she seems on more dubious ground when she claims that __________.
- Where as X provides ample evidence that _____, Y and Z’s research on _____ and _____ convinces me that ________ instead.

Mixed Feelings

- 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 __________.