

# BRIEF CONTENTS

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION xiii

PREFACE: *Demystifying Academic Conversation* xvi

INTRODUCTION: *Entering the Conversation* 1

## PART 1. "THEY SAY"

1 "THEY SAY": *Starting with What Others Are Saying* 19

2 "HER POINT IS": *The Art of Summarizing* 30

3 "AS HE HIMSELF PUTS IT": *The Art of Quoting* 42

## PART 2. "I SAY"

4 "YES / NO / OKAY, BUT": *Three Ways to Respond* 55

5 "AND YET": *Distinguishing What You Say from What They Say* 68

6 "SKEPTICS MAY OBJECT": *Planting a Naysayer in Your Text* 78

7 "SO WHAT? WHO CARES?": *Saying Why It Matters* 92

## PART 3. TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

8 "AS A RESULT": *Connecting the Parts* 105

9 "AIN'T SO / IS NOT": *Academic Writing Doesn't Always Mean Setting Aside Your Own Voice* 121

10 "BUT DON'T GET ME WRONG": *The Art of Metacommentary* 129

11 "HE ~~SAYS~~ CONTENDS": *Using the Templates to Revise* 139

## PART 4. IN SPECIFIC ACADEMIC CONTEXTS

12 "I TAKE YOUR POINT": *Entering Class Discussions* 163

13 "IMHO": *Is Digital Communication Good or Bad—or Both?* 167

14 "WHAT'S MOTIVATING THIS WRITER?":  
*Reading for the Conversation* 173

15 "ON CLOSER EXAMINATION": *Entering Conversations about Literature* 184

16 "THE DATA SUGGEST": *Writing in the Sciences* 202

17 "ANALYZE THIS": *Writing in the Social Sciences* 221

READINGS 239

INDEX OF TEMPLATES 293

# CONTENTS

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION	xiii
PREFACE	xvi
<i>Demystifying Academic Conversation</i>	
INTRODUCTION	1
<i>Entering the Conversation</i>	
<b>PART 1. "THEY SAY"</b>	17
<b>ONE "THEY SAY"</b>	19
<i>Starting with What Others Are Saying</i>	
<b>TWO "HER POINT IS"</b>	30
<i>The Art of Summarizing</i>	
<b>THREE "AS HE HIMSELF PUTS IT"</b>	42
<i>The Art of Quoting</i>	
<b>PART 2. "I SAY"</b>	53
<b>FOUR "YES / NO / OKAY, BUT"</b>	55
<i>Three Ways to Respond</i>	
<b>FIVE "AND YET"</b>	68
<i>Distinguishing What You Say from What They Say</i>	
<b>SIX "SKEPTICS MAY OBJECT"</b>	78
<i>Planting a Naysayer in Your Text</i>	
<b>SEVEN "SO WHAT? WHO CARES?"</b>	92
<i>Saying Why It Matters</i>	

## Contents

- PART 3. TYING IT ALL TOGETHER** 103
- EIGHT** “AS A RESULT” 105  
*Connecting the Parts*
- NINE** “AIN’T SO / IS NOT” 121  
*Academic Writing Doesn’t Always Mean  
Setting Aside Your Own Voice*
- TEN** “BUT DON’T GET ME WRONG” 129  
*The Art of Metacommentary*
- ELEVEN** “HE ~~SAYS~~ CONTENDS” 139  
*Using the Templates to Revise*
- PART 4. IN SPECIFIC ACADEMIC  
CONTEXTS** 161
- TWELVE** “I TAKE YOUR POINT” 163  
*Entering Class Discussions*
- THIRTEEN** “IMHO” 167  
*Is Digital Communication Good or Bad—or Both?*
- FOURTEEN** “WHAT’S MOTIVATING THIS  
WRITER?” 173  
*Reading for the Conversation*
- FIFTEEN** “ON CLOSER EXAMINATION” 184  
*Entering Conversations about Literature*
- SIXTEEN** “THE DATA SUGGEST” 202  
*Writing in the Sciences*
- SEVENTEEN** “ANALYZE THIS” 221  
*Writing in the Social Sciences*

**READINGS 239**

*Don't Blame the Eater* 241  
DAVID ZINCZENKO

*Hidden Intellectualism* 244  
GERALD GRAFF

*Nuclear Waste* 252  
RICHARD A. MULLER

*The (Futile) Pursuit of the American Dream* 260  
BARBARA EHRENREICH

*Everything That Rises Must Converge* 272  
FLANNERY O'CONNOR

INDEX OF TEMPLATES 293

CREDITS 311

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS 313