

## Discussing Evidence Using *They Say, I Say*

Your professors might tell you that you need to “enter a conversation” with scholars, but doing so can seem intimidating. Fear not! *They Say, I Say* provides helpful templates to help you articulate your arguments. Check out the templates below or visit the Writing Center and reference *They Say, I Say*.

### **He Says/She Says/ They Say**

A number of \_\_\_\_\_ have recently suggested that \_\_\_\_\_.

In their recent work, X and Y have offered harsh critiques of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.

Conventional wisdom is \_\_\_\_\_. However, in academic discussions of \_\_\_\_\_, one controversial issue has been \_\_\_\_\_.

Ultimately, X urges us to \_\_\_\_\_.

The essence of X’s argument is that \_\_\_\_\_.

### **You Say (Disagreeing with Author)**

X is mistaken because s/he overlooks \_\_\_\_\_.

X’s claim that \_\_\_\_\_ rests upon the questionable assumption that \_\_\_\_\_.

X contradicts herself when discussing the topic/issue/concern/idea of \_\_\_\_\_. On one hand, she argues \_\_\_\_\_. On the other hand, she also says \_\_\_\_\_.

By focusing on \_\_\_\_\_, X overlooks the deeper problem of \_\_\_\_\_.

I challenge the view that \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

X exaggerates when he claims that \_\_\_\_\_.

While it is easy to accept X’s claim about \_\_\_\_\_, closer examination of the issue leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

My discussion of \_\_\_\_\_ addresses the larger/ more important matter of \_\_\_\_\_.

**You Say (Simultaneously Disagreeing and Agreeing)**

Although I grant that \_\_\_\_\_, I maintain that \_\_\_\_\_ is of greater importance/consequence.

While it is true that \_\_\_\_\_, it does not necessarily follow that \_\_\_\_\_.

Although I disagree with much of what X says, I fully endorse his final conclusion that \_\_\_\_\_.

Although I agree with X about \_\_\_\_\_, I cannot accept his overall conclusion that \_\_\_\_\_.

X is right that \_\_\_\_\_, but she seems on more dubious ground when she claims that \_\_\_\_\_.

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

**You Say: Agreeing with Author**

I agree with X because \_\_\_\_\_ had broader implications for \_\_\_\_\_.

X is right about \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

X's contention that \_\_\_\_\_ is extremely useful because it sheds insight on \_\_\_\_\_.

I agree that \_\_\_\_\_, a point that needs emphasizing since so many people believe \_\_\_\_\_.

**Signaling Who is Saying What**

X argues \_\_\_\_\_.

According to X, \_\_\_\_\_.

The U.S. government \_\_\_\_\_, X argues, should \_\_\_\_\_.

My own view, however, is that \_\_\_\_\_.

I agree, as X may not realize, that \_\_\_\_\_.

But X is wrong that \_\_\_\_\_.

Nevertheless, new research shows \_\_\_\_\_.

However, it is not true that \_\_\_\_\_.

Indeed, it is highly likely that \_\_\_\_\_.

**Introducing Quotations**

X states, “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

As the prominent philosopher X puts it, “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

According to X, “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

In her book, \_\_\_\_\_, X maintains that “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

Writing in the journal, \_\_\_\_\_, X complains that “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

In X’s view, “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

X agrees by claiming “ \_\_\_\_\_.”

X disagrees by.....

X complicates/extends/extrapolates/emphasizes matters further when X writes,  
“ \_\_\_\_\_.”