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**Argumentative/Opinion Writing Terms**

**Claim**: a statement that articulates the main point of your opinion or argument.

**Reasoning**: the “because” part of your opinion or argument; the explanation for why you made the claim.

**Evidence**: Support for your reasoning in your opinion/argument; it’s the “for example” part of your opinion; should be text-based, reasonable, and reliable.

**SENTENCE STARTERS FOR CLAIMS, REASONING, AND EVIDENCE**

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| CLAIMS –AND—  COUNTER CLAIMS | REASONING | EVIDENCE |
| * The central issue is. . . * One of the most important/controversial/interesting issues/problems is . . . * The purpose of this paper is. . . * This paper describes/analyzes. . . * This is to show/explain/discuss. . . * It can be claimed/said. . . * It is maintained that. . .   **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**   * Some may argue that. . . * In contrast. . . * On the other hand. . . * One may argue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; however . . . * Some feel that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; however. . . | * This shows… * This demonstrates… * This evidence suggests * This evidence contributes * This evidence supports * This evidence confirms * It is apparent this evidence caused * Considering this evidence, it can be concluded * Based on the… it can be argued that * According to… * The connection * Hence, * This proves… * This highlights… * This is important because. . . * In examining the evidence. . . * This is significant because. . . * An example of this is. . . * This illustrates. . . | * For example, * Another example from the documents, * According to the documents, * In documents A it states * As found on document B, * As document (author)…states, * Evidence for this can be seen on … * …(author) emphasizes * …(author) states/asserts * …notes/clarifies/ justifies * The text says. . . * The text states. . . * The evidence suggests. . . * This can be explained by. . . |