

SENTENCE STARTERS FOR DISCUSSION BOARDS

WAYS TO RESPOND TO A TEXT

The following sentence starters can help you formulate your thinking when responding to a text such as a reading or a video, and posting your ideas to a discussion board:

- What most struck me about the text is...
- The question that I'd most like to ask the author of the text is...
- The idea I most take issue with in the text is...
- The most crucial point in the text is...
- The part of the text that I feel makes the most sense to me is...
- The part of the text that I feel is the most obscure or confusing is...
- The most contentious claim or statement in the text is...
- The most unsupported assertion in the text is...
- The most provocative or stimulating claim or statement in the text is...
- If we take the main arguments of this text seriously, the implications are...
- If we fail to take the main arguments of this text seriously, the implications are...

WAYS TO RESPOND TO ANOTHER PERSON'S POST

The following sentence starters can help you formulate your thinking when responding to another person's post:

- Your idea or claim or perspective is [insert brief summary], and I agree with this because...
- Your idea or claim or perspective is [insert brief summary], and I want to build on that with by adding...
- Your idea or claim or perspective is [insert brief summary], and I want to offer another perspective, which is...
- Your idea or claim or perspective is [insert brief summary], and one specific example of that is...
- Your idea or claim or perspective is [insert brief summary], but one possible exception is...
- I agree with most of your response but disagree with the part about [insert brief summary], and the reason why is...
- I like how you say [insert brief summary] because...
- A question I have about your response is [insert question], and the reason I ask this is because...