

RHETORICAL PRÉCIS SENTENCE STARTERS

Sentence One (What?)

_____ in the _____, _____,
(Author) (A) (Title)
_____ that _____
(B)

Sentence Two (How?)

_____ supports his/her _____ by _____
(Author's Last Name) (B) (C)

Sentence Three (Why?)

The author's purpose is to

(D)
_____ in order to / so that _____

Sentence Four (To Whom?)

The author writes in a _____ tone for _____
(E) (audience)

A. GENRE

article,
book review,
essay,
column,
editorial

B. METHOD

argues, argument,
asserts, assertion,
suggests, suggestion,
claims, questions,
explains, explanation

C. ORGANIZATION

comparing, contrasting
telling, explaining,
illustrating, demonstrating,
defining, describing,
listing

D. AUTHOR PURPOSE

show
point out
suggest
inform
persuade
convince

E. TONE

formal
informal
sarcastic
humorous
contemptuous