

# “They Say, I Say” Templates

Below are different ways to introduce your quotes so that they become more of what YOU SAY. In place of “X”, insert the author’s name.

## Introducing Something Implied or Assumed

- Although X does not say so directly, she/he apparently assumes that \_\_\_\_\_.
- While they rarely admit as much, \_\_\_\_\_ often take for granted that \_\_\_\_\_.

## Introducing an Outgoing Debate

- In discussions of X, one controversial issue has been \_\_\_\_\_. On the one hand, \_\_\_\_\_ argues \_\_\_\_\_. On the other hand, \_\_\_\_\_ even contends \_\_\_\_\_. My own view is that \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- When it comes to the topics of \_\_\_\_\_, most people will readily agree that \_\_\_\_\_. Where this agreement usually ends, however, is on the question of \_\_\_\_\_. Whereas some are convinced that \_\_\_\_\_, others maintain that \_\_\_\_\_.
- As I suggested earlier, defenders of \_\_\_\_\_ can’t have it both ways. Their assertion that \_\_\_\_\_ is contradicted by their claim that \_\_\_\_\_.

## Capturing Authorial Action

- X acknowledges that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X agreed that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X argues that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X complains that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X demonstrates that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X emphasizes that \_\_\_\_\_.

## Disagreeing, with Reasons

- I think that X is mistaken because he/she overlooks \_\_\_\_\_.
- x’s claim that \_\_\_\_\_ rests upon the questionable assumption that \_\_\_\_\_.
- I disagree with X’s view that \_\_\_\_\_ because, as recent research (personal experience) has shown, \_\_\_\_\_.
- By focusing on \_\_\_\_\_, X overlooks the deeper problem of \_\_\_\_\_.
- X claims \_\_\_\_\_, but we don’t need him/her to tell us that. Anyone familiar with \_\_\_\_\_ has long known that \_\_\_\_\_.

## Agreeing—with a Difference

- X is surely right about \_\_\_\_\_ because, as he/she may not be aware, recent studies have shown that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X’s theory of \_\_\_\_\_ is extremely useful because it sheds insight on the difficult problem of \_\_\_\_\_.
- I agree that \_\_\_\_\_, a point that needs emphasizing since so many people believe \_\_\_\_\_.

## Agreeing and Disagreeing Simultaneously

- Although I agree with X to a point, I cannot accept his/her overall conclusion that \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although I disagree with much of what X says, I fully endorse his/her final conclusion that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Though I concede that \_\_\_\_\_, I still insist that \_\_\_\_\_.
- X is right that \_\_\_\_\_, but she seems to be on more dubious ground when she/he states \_\_\_\_\_.