





Cognitive Strategies: Transitions, Sentence Starters, MLA Citations

Writing Non-Fiction





INTRODUCTION

(AG) Attention Grabber – Pathos (Pink):

- Rhetorical question
- Famous quote
- Controversial statement
- Statistic, fact, or anecdote

(S) Summary (Orange):

- The text displays...
- ❖ A central point in the text is...
- The main idea of the passage...
- The author's central claim...

(TH) Thesis (Red):

- ❖ The definition of...will be given...
- ❖ The key aspect discussed...
- Views on...range from...
- The central theme...
- Emphasized are...

(TS) Topic Sentence (Green):

The topic sentence derives from the thesis statement and aligns specific topics with the central idea. Every topic sentence will have a topic and controlling idea. The controlling idea shows the direction the paragraph will take. Here is an example:

BODY PARAGRAPH(S)

- ❖ Topic Sentence: There are many reasons why pollution in ABC Town is the worst in the world.
- The topic is "pollution in ABC Town is the worst in the world" and the controlling idea is "many reasons."

(Argumentative) Counter-argument (Green):

On the other hand, some people believe...

One may argue...; however, ...

(CD) Concrete Details -- Logos (Blue):

- ❖ For instance. ...
- For example, ...
- Furthermore, ...
- ❖ Also....
- Therefore....
- ❖ In addition, ...
- Another reason. ...
- ❖ Another example is, ...

Lead-ins (weaves CM with CD)

- ...in particular...
- ...namely...
- ...specifically...
- ...such as...
- ...to illustrate...
- ...supports...
- ...exemplifies...

Citing (MLA) Concrete Details!

Initial cites:

For example, the author specifically names, "Concrete details are the evidence for your essay" (Smith 68).

- Quotes cited from text are placed inside quotation marks " " and first letter of quote is capitalized.
- ✓ After a quote or paraphrase, the author's last name and **page number** is inserted in **parentheses:** (Smith 68), NOT (Smith, page 68)
- ✓ Period is last after the page number: (Smith 68).

For example, Smith depicts, "Concrete details are the evidence for your essay" (68).

✓ When using author's last name in the lead-in, cite ONLY page number in parentheses at the end of the sentence.

Additional citation(s):

✓ After properly citing an author's text, any additional quoted or paraphrased evidence need only a page number in the parentheses of a citation at the end of a concrete detail.

(CM) Commentary/Analysis - Ethos (Orange):

- (Author's last name) depicts...
- The quote illustrates...
- The passage demonstrates...
- Parts (or features) of...signify...
- Classifying ...according to...demonstrates...
- The evidence displays...
- Juxtaposing...with...illustrates...
- ❖ Despite this evidence, ...
- In comparison/contrast (choose one)...

(CN) Connection/Synthesis - Ethos (Orange):

- The reader can infer/predict (choose one)...
- The premise of the detail can be related to...
- The detail associated..., which generated the new concept of...
- ❖ An ideal solution for...will allow...
- ❖ If (author's last name) combined...with...,then...
- Prioritizing...according to...supports...
- The most significant aspect of...is...because...
- A criterion to assess support includes.... The results of the assessment concluded...
 CONCLUSION

(T) Transition Sentence (Black):

- The topic emphasizes...
- The support concludes...
- To review...
- ❖ In brief...

- Overall, ...
- ❖ In short, ...
- Furthermore, ...
- ❖ Therefore, ...

(TH) Re-state Thesis (Red):

Restate thesis statement in a new way with title & author's name

(S) Summary (Orange):

- ❖ In fact,...
- ...as has been noted..
- ❖ With this premise in mind,...

(C) Clincher (Pink):

Wrap up writing with an insightful sentence referring to your AG.

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