

Discourse Sentence Frames for Multiple Purposes

Express an Opinion

I believe that _____ will happen because _____.

I like the story because _____.

My answer is _____ because _____.

Ask for Clarification

Can you explain what you mean?

I was wondering _____ when _____.

Summarization

The passage is mostly about _____ because _____.

Some important details are _____ and _____.

Report a Partner's Idea

My colleague suggested that _____.

_____ pointed out that _____.

Disagree

I have to kindly disagree because _____.

I had a different way of looking at this because _____.

Affirm

I appreciate your thinking because _____.

Thank you for your helping me to understand _____.

Predict

I can predict that _____ because _____.

I predict _____. The prediction is based on _____.

Paraphrase

I am understanding you to say _____ because _____.

What I'm hearing from you is _____. Is that correct?

Acknowledge Ideas

I agree with my colleague because _____.

I want to build upon my colleague's ideas _____.

Report a Group's Idea

We came to consensus on _____.

We mostly agreed, but here's where we didn't: _____.

Offer a Suggestion

I wonder if _____.

That was a good start, but how about _____.

Hold the Floor

As I was suggesting _____.

Let me think about that and get back to you.

SOURCE: Adapted from Kate Kinsella and Dutro (2010).

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