Language of Argument: Topic Sentences

Make your argument transparent. For maximum clarity, bring topic sentences to the front so that your argument is easily scanned.

Model topic sentences for presenting your points:

One reason the United States should drop the Cuban embargo **is that** it is only hurting the population, not the government.

Another argument in favor of dropping the Cuban embargo **is that** it only hurts the population, not the government.

Continuing the embargo will only hurt more innocent people, not the Cuban government.

Model opposing argument sentences:

Those who support continuing the embargo **claim that** it has been effective in weakening Castro's power.

Some claim that the embargo has been effective in weakening Castro's government.

Opponents of dropping the embargo **often use the argument that** the embargo has been effective in weakening Castro's power.

Some argue that. . . .
Some may argue/claim/assert/maintain that. . . .

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