

How to talk about any document

INTRODUCTION

- Pour prendre votre respiration avant de vous lancer: Well / so / for starters
- As an introduction I'd (would) like to say that ...

WHAT ?

- The document I'm going to talk to you about is a

poem	entitled / called [+title]
text	(taken) from [+source]
news article	about [+topic]
passage / (an) extract from a novel	that deals with [+topic]
short story	that addresses the issue of [+topic]
tale	that takes a look at [+topic]
	(written) by [+author]
- This is a
- What we have here is a/the document about a
- The text is about a/the

crucial question of ...
controversial issue
(an) important topic
old problem of ...
- It's about a/the
- The text raises a/the

WHERE?

- The setting is / was

a big American city
the countryside
a small English village
a school
- The incident took place in
- The event occurred in
- The scene takes place in

IN the top left hand corner	AT the top	IN the top right hand corner
	IN the background	
ON the left	IN the middle	ON the right
	IN the foreground	
IN the bottom left hand corner	AT the bottom	IN the bottom right hand corner

Describing in 2D

WHEN?

- The incident took place

recently
long ago
during the winter
in the winter
at night
- The event occurred

WHO?

- The different characters depicted are
- The main character(s) is (are)
- The persons involved are / were ...

SUMMARY

- Basically the story is that of ...,
- the plot (l'intrigue)
- the heart of the problem is ...
- the core of the question is
- the main issue is
- the key topic is

GAP-FILLERS

A la place d'un "euh.. " bien français essayez:

- Eh ..
- Well ..
- You see ..
- Anyway to get back to the subject ...
- What I'm trying to say is that
- What I'm trying to get at is that ...
- What I mean to say is that ...

PARTS in the text or in your commentary:

- The text falls into 3 parts
 - The text can be divided into 3 parts
 - It is possible to divide the text into 3 parts
 - The passage is made of 3 paragraphs
- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| the first one, from line xx to line xx, | concerns ... |
| the second one ... | is focused on ... |
| the last one ... | deals with ... |
| | is based on ... |

ANALYSIS

• By doing this	the singer	wants to	show that...
	the director		suggest that ...
	the actor	intends to	indicate that ...
the journalist	make us feel that ..		
the writer	make us realize that ..		
	the author	wants	make us understand that ..
			the reader to feel that ...
			the viewer to realize that ...
			the audience to understand ...
			us to

REACT by stating your personal opinion.

• What I find the most	striking	in	This is that
	incredible		
• What strikes me the most	interesting	about	that
	ironical		
	ridiculous		
	impressive		
	threatening		
	unpleasant		

ALLUDING

- It makes me think of ...
- It reminds me of ... / refers to ... / alludes to ...

LINKING

- Then, there is ... / we have ...
- Also, we can observe that ...
- Besides ...
- Next, the text shows (that) ...
- In the same way ...
- On the one hand, ... but on the other hand,we can see that ...
- As a result
- Therefore ...
- However ...
- ... such as ...

QUOTING

- I'd (would) like to quote from the text : " ... ".
- In this passage / paragraph / sentence / line / stanza / verse / part →

1. We are told that " ..."

2.	seems to	insist on emphasize underline	such phrases as "...". such words as "...". words like "...".
The writer			
The poet			
The journalist			
The novelist			

CONCLUSION

- Drawing a conclusion about the document, we can say that →
 1. this is all based on
 2. it all revolves around
 3. what matters most throughout this text is
 4. what it actually boils down to is

the fact that
the notion that
the idea that
- to sum up, in a word, in short, in brief, to conclude, in conclusion