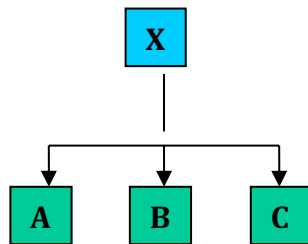


II. CHART OF LOGIC TYPES OF THESES

There are seven basic types of theses in argumentative writing. These types are often used in combination, but you might find it useful to visualize what your thesis is trying to accomplish by reviewing these categories.

1. ANATOMY THESIS divides things into categories.

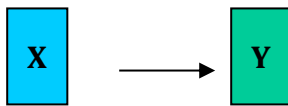


subtypes, definition, classify, comprise, consists of, break down, divide, imply

[X] is composed of [a, b, c]

Key transitions: and, in part, more specifically, more particularly, as a whole, that is, etc.

2. CHRONOLOGY THESIS notes pattern in time.

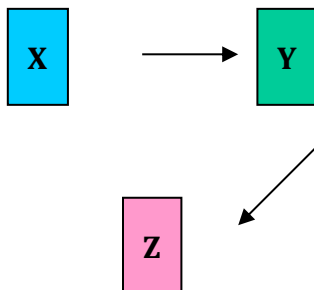


development, change, recurrence, process, divergence, convergence, history, narrative, cycle, transformation, reversal, significant point

[X] changes to [Y]

Key transitions: then, before, after, first, secondly, consequently, meanwhile, simultaneously, etc.

3. CAUSE/EFFECT THESIS notes causation.

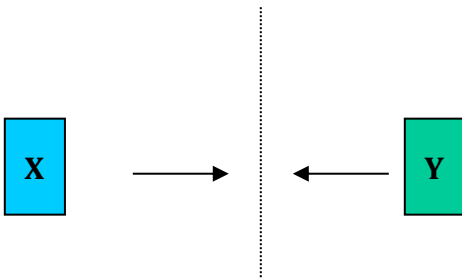


reason, motive, result, manifestation, produce, create, determine,

[X] causes [Y] and results in [Z]

Key transitions: therefore, thus, because, stemming, as a result of, since, whence, etc.

4. OPPOSED FORCES THESIS notes opposition

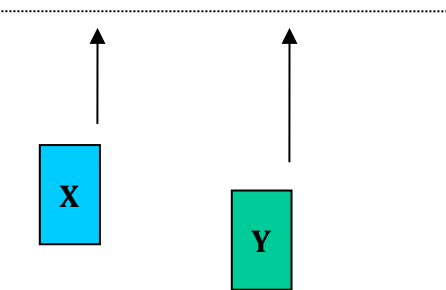


opposed elements, paradox, balance, crisis, presence/absence, extremes, good/bad, conflict,

[X] opposes [Y]

Key transitions: but, on the other hand, on the contrary, however, still, yet, nevertheless, in contrast, though, etc.

5. SPECTRUM THESIS notes degrees of quality.

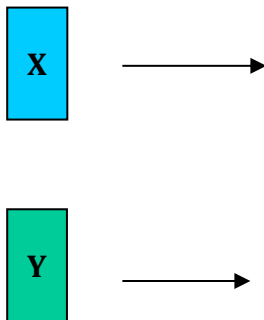


compare/contrast, value distinction, quality distinction, circle, overlap, importance, continuum

[X] differs from [Y] by [amount] of quality [Z]

Key transitions: (see opposed and parallel theses)

6. PARALLEL THESIS notes common elements.

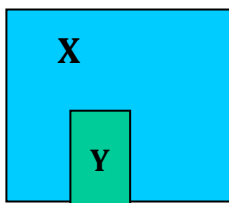


equate, in terms of, correlation, analogy, levels, relate, similar, metaphor

[X] relates to [Y]

Key transitions: likewise, similarly, moreover, etc.

7. METONYMICAL THESIS sees “meaning” in things.



mean, represent, symbolize, include, interpret, macrocosm/microcosm, appearance/reality

[X] contains [Y]; [X] means [Y]; [Y] defines [X]

Key transitions: for example, for instance, to illustrate, in brief, etc.