

Four Sentence Rhetorical Précis Template

1. _____, _____ in his/her
(author's credentials) (author's first and last name)
_____, _____,
(genre: article, essay, short story, editorial, sermon, etc.) (title of text appropriately punctuated underlined or in quotation marks) **argues**
(or suggests, implies, claims, notes) that _____ (major
assertion/thesis statement of author's text)

_____.

2. He/she supports (or develops) his/her claim by first _____

(comparing, narrating, illustrating, defining, etc.)
_____, then _____

then _____
_____, and finally _____
_____.

3. _____'s purpose is to _____
(author's last name) (persuade, criticize, explain, entertain, inform, describe ...
_____ in order to
(... prove, convince, bring about change, recommend, warn, etc.)
_____ (to
accomplish what?)

4. He/she _____ a(n) _____ tone for
(verb: adopts, establishes, creates, etc.) (informative, infuriated, thoughtful, hopeful, serious, sarcastic, etc.)
_____(intended audience)