Summarizing What "They Say"

When summarizing evidence, you simply report the facts; this is not the time to express your own opinions or conclusions. A summary of evidence should be objective, which means that it should not indicate whether you agree or disagree with what you are presenting.

DIRECTIONS: Choose one of the templates below for summarizing evidence. Use the template to summarize the evidence you are using in your essay. You may adjust the template as needed it none of them are exact fits for the information you have to present.

- In dealing with the question of _____, ____ have taken several approaches.
 X argues _____. Y and Z, on the other hand, maintain _____. Yet a third plausible explanation is W's conclusion that _____.
- What is _____? Previous work by X and Y has suggested that _____. Work by W supports both this explanation and _____, which was first suggested by Z.