



Read with an Adopted Persona

Task: Read through your argument as if you are your intended audience. Talk back to yourself to nudge rethinking and revision.

Instructions:

- 1.) Think of the audience you hope will encounter your argument. Now, give this audience a name. (Feel free to be playful!)

- 2.) Take on this persona. You might jot down some thoughts about the following questions:

- What does this person already know about this topic?
- What does this person not yet know about this topic?
- What might this person be wondering?
- Why does this person care about this topic? And if they don't care about it, why not?
- Why *should* this person care about the topic?
- What are some assumptions or biases this person might have about your topic?

- 3.) Now, look at the elements of your argument:

Your claim.

Your evidence.

Your reasoning.

What would your persona say about your claim? Your evidence? Your reasoning?

What questions would your persona have? What would their reactions be?

- 4.) Make notes *as your persona* for your writerly self.



These sentence starters might help you!

Share Agreement	Share a Reaction	Share Disagreement
"This confirms what I already believed about ____." "Yes – this matches something I've experienced myself, like when ____." "I hadn't thought about it that way, but now I'm convinced because ____." "This makes sense to me because it connects to ____."	"I'm not sure what you mean by _____. Can you explain that more?" "Wait, why does this matter to me?" "This surprised me because I assumed ____." "I didn't know that – that actually changes how I'm thinking about this." "I need more information before I can decide, specifically about ____." "This makes me feel [defensive / curious / dismissed / respected], and here's why: ____."	"I don't buy this because ____." "I already knew that, so this part feels like it's wasting my time." "This doesn't match my experience – in my experience, ____." "I don't see why I should care about this, because ____." "This assumes I already believe ____, but I don't." "You lost me here – I stopped following because ____." "This feels like it's talking past me instead of to me."

5.) Use these notes to rethink and revise.