

## 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)