

## Tips for Recognizing and Breaking Down Arguments

- The entire argument may appear in one or several sentences.
- The conclusion can be anywhere in the argument.
- Attempt to identify the conclusion first. Ask: What is this person trying to prove?
- The conclusion is often (not always) preceded by conclusion indicators
  - Therefore
  - Hence
  - Thus
  - Which shows that
  - For these reasons
  - Consequently
- The premises(s) are often (not always) preceded by premise indicators, such as
  - Because
  - For
  - Since
  - May be inferred that
  - The reason is that
  - As shown by
- Underline or highlight the conclusion and premise(s).