**Key Phrases Used in Academic Writing**

**Opening sentences of the introduction**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The | topic  issue  question | of X is | absorbing  controversial  intriguing  perplexing | due to  especially in the context of  particularly in relation to | Y |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The relationship between X and Y is | absorbing  controversial  intriguing  perplexing | due to  especially in the context of  particularly in relation to | Y |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The | topic  issue  question | of X is particularly | importing  significant  problematic | in the context of Y |

**Second sentence providing context and reason**

One example of this can be seen in relation to Y

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For example, X | plays a significant role when …  is essential when …  is an important/significant factor when …  is considered of value in situation where/when … |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Indeed, X typically influences | students  teachers  educators | when attempting to … |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| This can be seen to be of particular | interest  concern  importance | in the context of China. |

**Second argument/reason**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| In addition,  Furthermore, | another  yet another | reason  argument  factor  issue | that deserves exploration/examination/investigation is …  that needs to be taken into consideration is …  of significant importance is … |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| For example, | one reason why/how X has risen to prominence is … | | |
| one factor that is considered | relevant  controversial  important | in the Chinese context is … |

**Outline statement**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Therefore, this essay will | examine  explore  investigate | the three issues of … |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In an attempt to | address  examine  explore  investigate | the issues of X, Y and Z will be discussed below. |

**Thesis**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consequently,  As a consequence,  Therefore,  Given the above, | this essay will | argue  propose  maintain | that … |

**Main body sentences**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| First, | in relation to x,  with reference to x,  in context of x, | Y is considered on essential issue.  Y needs to be explored/examined.  Y is a significant factor.  the issue of Y is an important factor. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Another  Yet another | issue  factor  problem | is Y.  that influences X is Y. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In addition to X, Y is also | a significant  an influencing  an important | factor  consideration  influence  issue |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| In addition to the | issue  factor  problem  topic | X above, Y | also need to be examined.  also deserves/warrants consideration.  also influences this issue.  is another factor. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| While the issue of Y discussed above is a significant | issue  factor  problem | in relation to X, X should also be |

considered in this context.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| To illustrate this | issue  factor  problem  topic | further, it can be | argued  seen  observed | that … |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In addition to X, Y is also | a significant  an influencing  an important | factor  consideration  influence  issue |

In contrast,

Conversely,

On the other hand,

However, from a somewhat different perspective,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indeed, the | significance  importance | of Y in relation to X can be seen | where  when  in the context |

For this reason,

From this perspective,

From this angle,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Some  Many  Numerous  Several | people  researchers  commentators  observers  academics  teachers  students | argue  state  propose  maintain | that … |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| In this | context,  situation, | it is possible to argue  it could be argued | that … |

Consequently, having discussed the influence of Y on X, it is also necessary to investigate the importance of Z.

In addition to the influence of Y on X, Z is another important consideration in this context.

Finally,

The final consideration in relation to X is Y