**vocabulary**

* **Counterclaim:** a claim that opposes an original claim
* **Counterargument:** a complete argument that responds to specific parts of an opposing argument, using counterclaim, evidence, and reasoning

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| **Strategies** | **How To Say It** |
| **Deny**:  What my opponent just said is not true.  **(EVIDENCE is NOT VALID.)** | The fact that [what they said] is not true because [why it is not true]. |
| Based on the fact that [why it is not true], there is no reason to believe [what they said]. |
| The main flaw in [what they said] is [why it is not true] |
| **Reverse**:  What my opponent just said actually helps my argument.  **(REASONING is WEAK.)** | The fact that [what they said] actually shows [your claim] because [how it helps your argument]. |
| [What they said] demonstrates [how it helps your argument], which helps prove [your claim]. |
| On the contrary, one can conclude [how it helps your argument] from [what they said], thereby reinforcing the assertion [your claim]. |
| **Minimize**:  What my opponent just said is true, but it is not a big deal.  **(EVIDENCE is valid, but it’s IRRELEVANT.)** | While it may be true that [what they said], this does not provide enough reason to disprove [your claim] |
| While [what they said] may be the case, it has no impact on the fact that [your claim]. |
| On the contrary, [what they said] is not important in the big picture because [reason why what they said doesn’t matter]. |
| **Outweigh**:  What my opponent just said is true, but my point is more important.  **(EVIDENCE is valid and relevant, but it’s NOT AS RELEVANT as my evidence.)** | While it may be true that [what they said], what really matters is [what is more important about your argument], because [what makes it more important]. |
| Though [what they said] is true, the fact remains [what is more important about your argument]. |
| [What is more important about your argument] is of far greater concern than [what they said] because [what makes it more important]. |

Say how someone might disagree

Respond!

(See below.)

Present your argument.