**They Say / I Say**  
Chapter Six "Skeptics May Object" *Planting a Naysayer in Your Text*

**Paragraph 1**  
1. The author opens this chapter with an **anecdote**. The purpose of this anecdote is to identify you, the reader, with the fear Jane Tompkins experiences during her writing process. Tompkins takes this fear and turns it into something useful. Do you ever experience fear when you are writing an essay? If so, describe a way you could channel that fear into something productive.

**Paragraph 2**  
2. Explain why the author believes “no single device more quickly improves a piece of writing than the practice of planting a naysayer in the text....”

**Paragraphs 3 – 4**  
3. Notice that in these two paragraphs, the author is doing **exactly** what he is describing. He is planting a naysayer by beginning with, “But, wait, you say.” In effect, the author is making you, the reader, the naysayer. What is the comparison the author makes between Chapter 1 and this chapter?

**Paragraphs 5 – 8**  
4. These paragraphs explain how readers characterize authors by their writing. Instructors characterize students in much the same way. In this book, the author is suggesting numerous ways for students to characterize themselves favorably within their writing. As your instructor, I’m asking you to consider and apply these suggestions to your writing in order to be competitive and stand out to future teachers, employers, etc. The first step, however, is for you to **care** about the way you characterize yourself. Respond to these comments as you see fit?

**Paragraph 9**  
5. How do you think you characterized yourself in your response to #4?

**Paragraph 10 – 12**  
6. Restate the main idea of these paragraphs in your own words.  
7. What is a potential problem the author suggests might happen if you apply this suggestion to your writing?  
8. How can you avoid that problem?  
9. If you receive feedback like, “vague” or “be more specific,” this is a good suggestion to help you. Look at Source A of your AP essay prompt packet. Identify specific groups you might gear comments toward.

**Paragraphs 13-15**  
10. Define **colloquial**.  
11. Do you think it would be appropriate for you to include this nature of language (paragraph 14b) in an essay written for the AP Exam? Explain.  
12. “This move works well for Jackson, but only because (using one of the strategies suggested in Chapter 5) he uses quotation marks to make clear at every point whose voice he is in.” Explain the concept discussed in Chapter 5.

**Paragraph 16**  
13. Define **empathy**.  
14. How is this paragraph related to **empathy**?
Paragraphs 17 - 18
15. List three suggestions for appropriately representing objections.

Paragraphs 19-21
16. The purpose of presenting objections is to respond to them in a way that supports your argument. Explain ways this could backfire.
17. Explain the link between this chapter and chapter 4.

Paragraphs 23 – 24
18. Choose one of the templates for making concessions while still standing your ground and complete it appropriately.

Exercise
At this point, you should have written an introductory paragraph and two body paragraphs of your response to the AP prompt. In your body paragraphs, you should have incorporate appropriate summaries (Ch. 2), adequate quotes (Ch. 3), responses to others' viewpoints (Ch. 4), and clear markers for different viewpoints (Ch. 5).

Now, write a complete revision of what you have so far, with these considerations:

6A) Have you anticipated and responded to any objections?
6B) Have you anticipated all the likely objections?
6C) Who, if anyone, have you attributed the objections to?
6D) Have you represented the objections fairly?
6E) Have you answered them well enough, or do you think you now need to qualify your own argument?
6F) Could you use any language suggested in this chapter?
6G) Does the introduction of a naysayer strengthen your argument? Why, or why not?

Highlight and label where you have accomplished each of the above questions.