

## Some Tools of Discovery

### I Questioning techniques

A Journalists' questions: Who, what, when, where, why, how

B Status (or stasis) questions

1 Questions of fact. *an sit?* ("is it?")

2 Questions of definition. *quid sit?* ("what is it?")

3 Questions of degree or quality. *quale sit?* ("what kind is it?")

4 Questions of venue. (questions of forum or procedure for arguing this issue)

### II Reference to lists

A Common topics.

1 Definition

a Genus—Basically, here you are arguing that X is (or is not) a Y.

b Division—Analyses of whole entities into parts, of processes or sequences into steps or stages, and of large groups into smaller

2 Comparison

a Similarity

b Difference

c Degree.

3 Relationship

a Cause-effect

b Antecedent/consequence.

c Contraries.

d Contradictions

4 Circumstances

a Possible/impossible

b Past fact/future fact

5 Testimony

a Authority (informed opinion)

b Witness/testimonial (Non-expert testimony)

6 Statistics

7 Common knowledge (maxims, aphorisms)

8 Law (Contracts, testaments, statutes, documents)

9 Precedent.

B Special Topics (Kinds of persuasive discourse)

1 Political (also called deliberative, hortatory, advisory)

2 Forensic (also called legal, judicial, judgmental)

3 Epideictic (also called demonstrative, declamatory, ceremonial, panegyric)

C Rhetorical Modes

1 Description.

2 Narration.

3 Example

4 Classification

5 Process/Sequence

6 Comparison

7 Cause-effect

8 Definition

### III Brainstorming/Freewriting