Occasion/Position Statements Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
An **Occasion/Position statement** is a complex (two-part) sentence that begins with one of these words or phrases:  
   
*THE POSITION:  
  
 - is the second part of the topic sentence  
 - states what you plan to prove or explain in your paragraph  
 - is the independent clause (which means that by itself, it would be a complete sentence.)*

**THE OCCASION:  
  
 - is the first part of the topic sentence  
 - introduces your reason for writing  
 - can be any event, problem, idea, solution, or circumstance that gives you a reason to write  
 - is the dependent clause (which means that by itself, it would not be a complete sentence)**

After As soon as Even though So that Whenever  
  
Although Because If Though Where  
  
As Before In order that Unless Wherever  
  
As if Even In order to Until Whether  
  
As long as Even if Since When While

EXAMPLES:

**Although my family and I have taken many wonderful vacations,** *none was more fun and exciting than our camping trip to the Grand Canyon.*

**Before you make the decision to light up a cigarette,** *consider the problems caused by smoking.*

**Even though Melinda experienced a horrible trauma,** *I still wish she had faced her problems differently.*

Whenever the mascot changed throughout *Speak,* Melinda also changed.   
  
Since Melinda’s mood changes throughout *Speak,* the mascot changes match her mood switches as well.   
  
In order to show Melinda’s embarrassment, the author titled the section “Spotlight” (6).   
  
Even though Melinda “Escape(s)” school for the day by going to the mall, she never “escapes” her past.