**Commentary Anchor Chart**

**Questions for Writing Commentary – Ask Yourself:**

* **What** do I need to make sure the reader understands about this evidence? (Re-explain the evidence.)
* **Why** is this evidence especially important?
* **How** does it prove and support the claim?

**The Importance of BECAUSE**

“Because” is a word that tells a reader they are about to hear an explanation. It signals **significance** and **relationship**. It’s an effective word to use when writing commentary. Take a look:

* These statistics are important **because** they point to the effects of poor nutrition and how serious the school lunch problem is.
* Leaders and decision-makers must pay attention to such experiences **because** they prove that there is a relationship between what we eat and how well we learn.

**Strong Commentary Verbs**from *Rules for Writers* by Diana Hacker

Use these verbs when writing commentary. Note the two verbs underlined in the sentences above.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| acknowledges | compares | insists | claims |
| adds | confirms | notes | underscores |
| admits | declares | observes | exemplifies |
| agrees | denies | points outs | implies |
| argues | emphasizes | rejects | proves |
| asserts | highlights | reports | exhibits |
| believes | illustrates | responds | suggests |