

## 2:4 Recognizing Premises and Conclusions

In informal arguments, premises and conclusions cannot be identified by location. Oftentimes the conclusion is stated first and then the premises upon which it is based are stated in the form of “proof.” For example, the statement Socrates is mortal because he is a man can be stated as the following:

“ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ ” or  
      (C)              (P)  
“ \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
      (C)                              (P)

The following words indicate a conclusion:

Therefore, in conclusion, accordingly, it follows that, as a result, hence, so, etc.

The following words indicate a premise:

Since, because, for, whereas, seeing that, based upon, etc.