

Sample Response for Deuteronomy 1:1–5 | Mary Hannah

Structure of Deut 1:1–5

Speaker

- **The prophet** | *'These are the words that Moses spoke*

Audience

- **The people** | *to all Israel*

*Core issue
signaled by
means of
geographical
and **temporal**
information*

- **The problem** | *beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazeroth, and Dizahab. ² It is **eleven days'** journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea. ³ In the **fortieth year**, on the first day of the eleventh month, Moses spoke to the people of Israel according to all that the LORD had given him in commandment to them, ⁴ **after** he had defeated Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth and in Edrei. ⁵ Beyond the Jordan, in the land of Moab,*

*Prophet's/
book's plan to
address this
problem*

- **The project** | *Moses undertook to explain this law, saying ...*

Unifying Theme of Deut 1:1–5 | In the book's preamble, the narrator orients Deuteronomy's readers/hearers to the book's prophet, the people, the problem, and the project.

Narrator's Aim in Deut 1:1–5 | In Deut 1:1–5, the narrator aims to introduce Moses's first sermon and the whole book by orienting his readers to some important elements of what will follow in this book.