



Paraphrasing Tool Example

1. TOPIC

What is this text mainly about?

Hint: Look at the title or heading of the section, or the topic sentence of the paragraph. Your answer will likely be a short, general statement.

→ Writing paraphrases

2. MAIN IDEA

What does this text tell me about the topic stated above?

Hint: Be specific! The first or last sentences of each paragraph may provide clues (topic and concluding sentences). Look for repetitions of the same word or words in the whole section.

- Paraphrasing definition: writing what has been read in the reader's own words.
- Benefits: improves reading, improves understanding and remembering information.

3. DETAILS/FACTS

What details or facts support the main idea stated above?

Hint: Choose details that you need for the assignment you are writing Or that you think will be needed for discussions, assignments, or tests.

- Reading and learning skills helped by: better understanding, better remembering, better concentration, greater interest in what is being read.
- Benefits of paraphrasing are supported by research.

4. AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

Hint: Why is the author writing about this topic? (to explain, analyse, critique etc.?)

- Author's purpose: explain paraphrasing, describe benefits, provide credibility for benefits (research)
- Author's position: supports paraphrasing

5. AUTHOR'S EXPRESSION

Hint: How is the author writing about this topic? (by giving an example, comparing, etc.?)

- Defines paraphrasing, describes benefits of paraphrasing, and who benefits.
- Gives examples: of research that supports claims of benefits

PARAPHRASE IT!

Use the answers to the sections above to write your own paraphrase of the information. It should be accurate and convey the same main idea and meaning as the original.

Compiled answers:

- Writing paraphrases
- Paraphrasing definition: writing what has been read in the reader's own words.
- Benefits: improves reading, improves understanding and remembering information.
- Reading and learning skills helped by: better understanding, better remembering, better concentration, greater interest in what is being read.
- Benefits of paraphrasing are supported by research.
- Author's purpose: explain paraphrasing, describe benefits, and provide credibility for benefits (research)
- Author's position: supports paraphrasing
- Defines paraphrasing, describes benefits of paraphrasing, and who benefits.
- Gives examples: of research that supports claims of benefits

Paraphrased text:

Many benefits are claimed for paraphrasing, or rewriting information that has been read into one's own words. Shugarman and Hurst (1986) state that research supports benefits to students of improved reading skills and improved understanding of the information that was read. Other benefits described include better memory of content, better concentration, and increased interest in the subject matter