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## Paraphrasing vs. Summarizing

Paraphrasing	Summarizing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Paraphrasing a passage is similar to summarizing, but when you paraphrase you restate the information in different words. It may be as long as the original passage or it may be as short as you should cover the entire passage, not just a part of it.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The summary tells the most important things about an article, book, or story. It is different from paraphrasing. The main idea tells what the passage is mainly about. In addition to telling what a passage is about, a summary touches on the passage's important points of events, while leaving out details that are less than important.</li></ul>

Paraphrase and summary are different writing strategies that ask you to put another author's argument in your own words. This can help you better understand what the writer of the source is saying, so that you can communicate that message to your own reader without relying only on direct quotes. Paraphrases are used for short passages and specific claims in an argument, while summaries are used for entire pieces and focus on capturing the big picture of an argument. Both should be cited using the appropriate format (MLA, APA, etc.). See KU Writing Center guides on APA Formatting, Chicago Formatting, and MLA Formatting for more information. ParaphraseWhen you paraphrase, you are using your own words to explain one of the claims of your source's argument, following its line of reasoning and its sequence of ideas. The purpose of a paraphrase is to convey the meaning of the original message and, in doing so, to prove that you understand the passage well enough to restate it. The paraphrase should give the reader an accurate understanding of the author's position on the topic. Your job is to uncover and explain all the facts and arguments involved in your subject. A paraphrase tends to be about the same length or a little shorter than the thing being paraphrased.To paraphrase:Alter the wording of the passage without changing its meaning. Key words, such as names and field terminology, may stay the same (i.e. you do not need to rename Milwaukee or osteoporosis), but all other words must be rephrased. Retain the basic logic of the argument, sequence of ideas, and examples used in the passage. Accurately convey the author's meaning and opinion. Keep the length approximately the same as the original passage. Do not forget to cite where the information came from.

Even though it is in your own words, the idea belongs to someone else, and that source must be acknowledged. SummaryA summary covers the main points of the writer's argument in your own words.

## What's the difference?

- A shortened version of a text
  - It is short, and uses the key ideas of the larger text
  - Uses both your own words and key words from the text
  - Doesn't include your opinion!
  - Rewriting the text in your own words
  - Communicates the central ideas, but may be similar in length to the original text
- The purpose of a summary is to shorten the text, but paraphrasing only wants to put the text in your own words!

- Rewriting the text in your own words
- Communicates the central ideas, but may be similar in length to the original text

The purpose of a summary is to shorten the text, but paraphrasing only wants to put the text in your own words!

Summaries are generally much shorter than the original source, since they do not contain any specific examples or pieces of evidence. The goal of a summary is to give the reader a clear idea of what the source is arguing, without going into any specifics about what they are using to argue their point. To summarize: Identify what reading or speech is being summarized. State the author's thesis and main claims of their argument in your own words. Just like paraphrasing, make sure everything but key terms is reworded. Avoid specific details or examples. Avoid your personal opinions about the topic. Include the conclusion of the original material. Cite summarized information as well. In both the paraphrase and summary, the author's meaning and opinion are retained. However, in the case of the summary, examples and illustrations are omitted. Summaries can be tremendously helpful because they can be used to encapsulate everything from a long narrative passage of an essay, to a chapter in a book, to an entire book. When to Use Paraphrasing vs. Summarizing Updated June 2022 Composing a piece of text for an assignment or a blog can require you to perform thorough research, compose content, and ensure its uniqueness. That brings the need for paraphrasing the content and summarizing. However, the terms paraphrasing and summarizing are mistaken as synonyms. They are both related, but they are not the same. To clarify the concepts in this blog, we will focus on paraphrasing vs summarizing and their differences. What is paraphrasing? Paraphrasing refers to writing a piece of content again without changing its actual meaning. It would require you to read the text and present that in your own words. A paraphrased text can take the major part of the original text and can be generally shorter. The need to paraphrase From blogs to assignments, paraphrasing can be the call for creating content in different situations. For a broader picture, here is the set of reasons why you need to paraphrase: To refine the specific text from a short passage. To save from the overuse of quotations.

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To explain the word without focusing on wordings

Stanley Milgram (1974) reports that ordinarily compassionate people will be cruel to each other if they are commanded to be by an authority figure. In his experiments, 25 of the 40 subjects were asked to administer electric shocks to people who made errors on a simple test. In spite of signs that those receiving shocks were in pain, 25 of the 40 subjects continued to administer electric shocks. These results held up in each group of people, regardless of the experimenter's gender. The transcripts of conversations from the experiment reveal that although many of the participants felt uncomfortable, unsure, and even reluctant to obey the experimenter, often showing great deference for the experimenter, Milgram suggested that people feel that they are not responsible for the wishes of an authority figure; they do not feel responsible for the actual actions they are performing. He concluded that the division of labor in society encourages people to focus on a small task and eschew responsibility for the actions they do.

This summary of Stanley Milgram's 1974 essay, "The Perils of Obedience," provides a brief overview of Milgram's 12-page essay, along with an APA style parenthetical citation. You would write this type of summary if you were discussing Milgram's experiment in a paper in which you were not supposed to assume your reader's knowledge of the sources. Depending on your assignment, your summary might be even shorter.

To report statistics and numerical data. To share the crucial part of a passage. To avoid plagiarism. How to paraphrase without the occurrence of any plagiarism issue?

## QUOTE? PARAPHRASE? SUMMARIZE?



Plagiarism refers to presenting the work of some other author as one's. With many benefits, usage of paraphrasing, using content without plagiarism is another. Either through adding synonyms or changing the speech, there are different ways to paraphrase without plagiarizing. To facilitate it for you, here are the steps you can proceed with:

Before you begin to compose the content in your own words, it is necessary for you to understand it properly.

For this, you can read the resource several times, and you can even look for multiple references. It can allow you to have several sources and a lot of information. Note down the major points. Whether you consider single or multiple references, you should note down the important points. With this, you can take the information and still not copy the same notion of the writer. You can use the material and phrase it in your words. Once you understand the meaning and take the major points, you can compose fresh content. While doing so, you must make sure that you do not have to look at the original passage and prepare for what you have understood. After writing your content, the next step should be comparing it with the original passage. It can allow you to evaluate the authenticity of the facts and check if you have missed any crucial information. Even if you write the content in your own words, citation helps track the original idea. It also gives the credit to the original source. What does paraphrased content look like?

To get a clearer idea of paraphrased content, you can take a look at these examples of paraphrasing: Original Content Digital marketing has been a growing field in the past decades. It includes using different platforms to promote businesses. Its purpose is to connect to its target audience present in digital mediums. Paraphrased Content Over the past decades, digital marketing has become a booming field. It consists of promoting a brand while availing of the different digital platforms. The choices of the words are not the same, and in the first sentence only, there is a change in the sentence structure.

That is how you can paraphrase the content. What Is Summarizing? Summary refers to a short review, a restatement of the major points, which is a conclusion of the work in most cases. With this, summarizing refers to composing a summary of the content or other resources. It has to communicate the most crucial part for the writer. You have to prepare it in your own words, and it has to state the information you

Several benefits come with the need to summarize. First of all, it allows you to understand the structure in which the content has been organized and then combine them into the major parts. With this, you can focus on putting things in the most crucial part of the text. Here are the conditions that require summarizing: To reduce the source material and bring out the major and relatable points. To remove extra information from the crucial source material. To make the material simple and easy to understand. How to Summarize?

Summarizing involves taking the ideas from the source information and then sharing them from a text, which can be some other source. You must also add your own information to the text. You must also add your own information to the text.

You can use Smodin Summarizer to summarize all the texts you want. Like we did for paraphrasing, here is the step-by-step explanation of summarizing: Find and Read The first step you need to do is select the text. It can be four to five lines and can support the idea. After that, you have to thoroughly read it to get a detailed idea and understanding of the topic. You must prepare notes, and add the keywords, terms, and keywords you can use to understand it better.

[illegible]

versed with its grammar, the system of words, and structure to facilitate the exchange of thoughts and emotions. It is also essential to express the ideas and customs in societies and cultures. When you choose to learn the concepts of a new language, you can connect with new thoughts and ideas. You can also make yourself familiar with customs and the manner in which people greet each other. The role of learning a language also encompasses professional growth as a person with a command of the global language can find more career possibilities. Several sectors and industries need professionals well-versed in common languages.

So, let us assume that Dr. A has written it for a paper presented at University Y in 2020. The title is The influence of language on an individual. In that case, here is how you will present the summary of the paragraph: Summary: In the paper on The influence of language on an Individual at Y University, Z, Dr. A presented his thoughts on language. It allows people to exchange their thoughts and ideas. Learning a new language can allow people to connect to new thoughts and ideas and learn about new customs. It can also pave the way for your growth at a professional level. This is because industries often look for professionals who master a commonly-spoken language. About the Summary This summary has the source, time, and writer while expressing the essential points. It also states the perception presented by the author but in a different and neutral manner.

Final Thoughts Paraphrasing and summarizing are somehow different from each other. This blog has focused on putting some light on paraphrasing vs summarizing. Where paraphrasing is about conveying the same messages without shortening the length, summarizing explains the crucial points more succinctly. However, the need is to create plagiarism-free content through both the methods you prefer to go ahead with. Talking of composing unique content, Smodin.io can provide you with the tools to prepare an assignment/blog for you. All you need to do is copy your content, use it, and wait for fresh and distinct content. We use cookies and similar technologies to improve your website.

By continuing to use this website, you consent to the usage of cookies. Learn more about our [Privacy Statement](#) and [Cookie Policy](#). Decline Non-Essential Cookies Summarizing Summaries are significantly shorter than the original material, and they take a broad overview of the source material as a whole. Summary must be cited with in-text citations and on your reference page. Summarize when: You want to establish background or offer an overview of a topic You want to describe knowledge (from several sources) about a topic You want to determine the main ideas of a single source Paraphrasing Paraphrasing is stating an idea or passage in your own words. You must significantly change the

Paraphrase when: You want to clarify a short passage from a text You want to avoid overusing quotations You want to explain a point when exact wording isn't important You want to explain the main points of a passage You want to report numerical data or statistics (preferred in APA papers) Quoting Quotations are the exact words of an author, copied directly from a source, word for word. Quotations must appear with quotation marks, and they need to be cited with in-text citations and on the reference page. Use quotations when: You want to add the power of an author's words to support your argument You want to disagree with an author's argument You want to highlight particularly eloquent or powerful phrases or passages You are comparing and contrasting specific points of view You want to note the important research that precedes your own