

Time to Practice: Paraphrasing Exercise

A paraphrase is when you write another author's ideas in your own words and in your own way, without changing the meaning or removing any information from the original text.

5 steps to paraphrasing:

1. Read the passage several times to ensure you understand it completely.
2. Take note of key concepts.
3. Write your own version of the text without looking at the original.
4. Compare your paraphrase with the original text, make changes if necessary.
5. Cite the source.

Useful paraphrasing tips:

1. Start your sentence from a different point than the original text.
2. Use synonyms.
3. Change the sentence structure.
4. Break up long sentences or combine shorter ones

Example

Original text:

"Artistic, diverse and ever-changing, Vancouver is a hub of cultural activity. The fact that the city boasts a number of notable cultural institutions, such as the Vancouver Art Gallery and the Vancouver Opera, is known to many" (Lang 20).

Paraphrase:

Vancouver is well-known as a major cultural centre on Canada's West coast. The Vancouver Art Gallery and the Vancouver Opera are just two examples of its many famous and distinct cultural sites (Lang 20).

Following the 5 steps and using the paraphrasing tips and example as a guide, write a paraphrase for the following 3 passages.

1. "The style of information students encounter in their university courses is shaped by the research situation that produced it" (Giltrow et al. 10).
2. "Like a family caring for its members, the hospital cares for members of the community. But the scale of care is not domestic and private, like family care, but civic and public. This conflict in scale can disorient and alienate the patient, confusing or coercing him, adding to his distress" (Giltrow et al. 67).
3. "For most of history the economy stayed much the same size. Yes, global production increased, but this was due mostly to demographic expansion and the settlement of new lands. Per capita production remained stasis" (Harari 341).

For additional help, please make an appointment with a Writing & Learning Centre Humanities specialist at: <https://alexander.mywconline.com/>

Works Cited

Giltrow, Janet et al. *Academic Writing – An Introduction*, 2nd ed. Broadview Press, 2009.

Harari, Yuval Noah. *Sapiens*. Penguin Random House, 2014.

Lang, Wendee. "Finding Inspiration." *Megaphone*. 18 Jan. 2013.