



## TEACHING PARAPHRASING AND SUMMARISING SKILLS

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**Annotation:** *This article discusses the importance of teaching paraphrasing and summarizing skills in academic writing. These skills help students understand texts more clearly, avoid plagiarism, and develop critical thinking abilities. The article explains the definitions of paraphrasing and summarizing, outlines their key differences, and highlights common difficulties students face when using these techniques. In addition, several practical strategies for teaching paraphrasing and summarizing are presented to support students in academic writing. The article emphasizes the role of teachers in systematically teaching these skills to improve students' academic performance and confidence in writing.*

**Key words:** *Paraphrasing, summarizing, academic writing, critical thinking, plagiarism, reading comprehension, teaching strategies*

Paraphrasing and summarizing help students to understand topics or text more clearly and develop their critical thinking skills. So we can say that they are crucial academic skills. Mostly, Students face difficulties like understanding key points of texts while reading. "It is important to be able to summarize and paraphrase correctly in order to effectively integrate your research into your essay without relying on direct quotation or committing plagiarism" (Trent University). In this article, We discuss about paraphrasing, summarizing and difference of them.



Paraphrasing is rewriting of a specific passage from someone else. It is written in your own words, without changing the original meaning or removing any information (Scribbr, 2019). We can use synonym words or change grammar structure when we paraphrase. Paraphrasing really gives you a deeper understanding of the source and the topic you are reading about, and shows that you are able to critically think about topic (WUWritingcenter, 2020). According to ben, (2025), “Paraphrasing serves several important functions in academic writing, research, and other context. Paraphrasing helps writers include ideas from sources while keeping their own voice. Paraphrasing is key to avoiding plagiarism. It shows respect for the original content and expresses it in a new way”. Consequently, Teachers should teach paraphrasing skill strategically to students. If students know how to paraphrase correctly, they can easily write essays, and it helps to their critical thinking skills. There are 5 techniques of paraphrasing:

- Change sentence structure
- Use synonym and fresh vocabulary
- Adapt the tone
- Focus on word choice
- Rephrase text by chunking

This techniques help you to better paraphrase.

“Summarizing is expressing the most important facts or ideas about something or someone in a short and clear form” (Cambridge dictionary). So when we summarize, we keep main point of the text and then we retell or rewrite it shortly.

“Writing a summary does not involve critiquing or evaluating the source. You should simply provide an accurate account of the most important information and ideas without copying any text from the original” (McCombes, 2020). It is important to be able to summarize for students by concluding they can pick what the main idea of the topic is. However, the number of students struggle with understand the key point of the text, mostly they add sentence which is not primary in the text while summarizing. So it is necessary to teach them how to correctly summarize.



Easy way to summarize is answer this question “What is the text about it?” , “ When, where, who, and how” . While we are answering these question, we recognize the main point of the topic. When teacher teach this strategy to students, they learn how to summarize correctly.

“Paraphrasing and summarizing are both writing techniques used for restating another person’s points or opinions in your own words, without quoting them or plagiarizing their text. In fact, in academic writing, paraphrasing and summarizing are the standart, with accompanying citations so the reader knows the original source” (Matt, (2024).

“The main difference of between paraphrasing and summarizing is the scope – are you rewriting a single point or a more complex idea?” (Matt, (2024). Thus when we paraphrase, we change the sentence structure, but not main idea of it, mostly we do not shorten the sentence. However, When we summarise, the main part of summarizing is keeping the main idea and understanding the text, you can shorten it, chanfe whole text.

In conclusion, Teachers should teach paraphrasing and summarizing skills purposely. These academic skills help students to understand difficult text, give their point of view certainly, write academic writings confidently. Students should work with these skills more and more, it helps them in their academic career.

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