Lecture 1: Introduction to Research Context, Problem and Research Question
Lecture 2: Defining Research Aim and Objectives

Seminar 1: Practice: Formulating Research Aims and Questions

Seminar 2: Developing Research Context

Seminar 3: Language focus: Paraphrasing and Summarizing

Seminar Objective

- Practicing paraphrasing and summarizing.

What is paraphrasing?

A paraphrase is a restatement (in your own words) of the ideas in the original. Good paraphrasing can demonstrate that you have understood the text you have read and can avoid plagiarizing.

Task 1
Paraphrase

Follow the three steps and identify the important information in the sentence and the relationships between points.
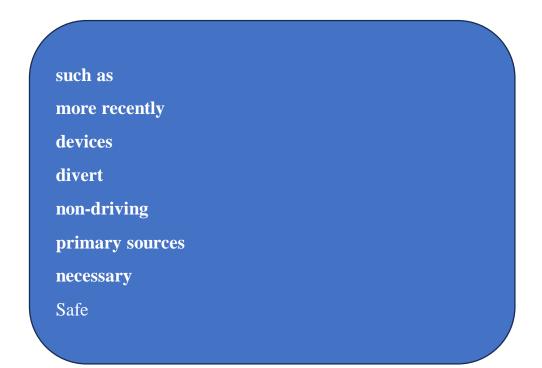
Nondriving-related devices, such as car stereos, mobile phones, and, more recently, navigation systems, divert drivers' attention increasingly more away from the primary sources of information necessary for safe operation of the vehicle: the road and other road users.

Step 1. What are the key points (important information) in this sentence? Write 2-3 key points.

Step 2. Identify what linking words and verbs can be used to express cause and effect relationship? Brainstorm and write as many words as you can.

Step 3. Next consider possible synonyms for the sentence's vocabulary and changing the part of speech (nouns to verbs, for instance). Write as many synonyms for the following words as you can.

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such as

more recently

devices

divert

non-driving

primary sources

necessary

Safe

Step 4. Re-write the sentence using **due to, lead to, or because**, changing the vocabulary and grammar as necessary.

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Task 2
Paraphrase

Task guide: Read the original text below. Highlight the words that you think are specialized words or words that **should not be changed** when paraphrasing. Underline the words which **should be changed.**

The United States, Germany, Japan and other industrial powers are being transformed from industrial economies to knowledge and information based service economies, whilst manufacturing has been moving to low wage countries. In a knowledge and information based economy, knowledge and information are the key ingredients in creating wealth.

Task 3 Paraphrase

Read the two paraphrases of the original text below.

Select the statement that describes the **most appropriate paraphrase**.

Paraphrase 1

The United States, Germany, Japan and other economies are being dramatically changed from industrial economies to knowledge and information based service economies as manufacturing shifts to countries where the wages are low cost. In a knowledge and information based economies, knowledge and information are the focus in economic growth (Laudon & Laudon 2002).

Paraphrase 2

There has been a dramatic change in economies such as the United States, Japan and Germany from industrial to service economies involved in knowledge and information. As manufacturing shifts to countries where wages are low, economic growth and information economies must focus on knowledge and information production (Laudon & Laudon 2002).

Original text

The United States, Germany, Japan and other industrial powers are being transformed from industrial economies to knowledge and information based service economies, whilst manufacturing has been moving to low wage countries. In a knowledge and information based economy, knowledge and information are the key ingredients in creating wealth.

Select the statement that describes the **most appropriate paraphrase**.

(a) Paraphrase 1 is acceptable because it closely follows the sentence structure of the original.

(b) Both paraphrases are acceptable because some of the keywords have been changed.

(c) Paraphrase 2 is not acceptable because the sentence structure has been changed.

(d) Paraphrase 2 is acceptable because both the sentence structure and the keywords have been changed.

(e) Paraphrase 2 is unacceptable because the subject of the first sentence is different from the original, i.e. 'dramatic change' rather than 'the United States, Germany and Japan'.

Task 4 Summarize

Task guide: Students have to read the text and highlight the key points and main ideas.

"Artificial intelligence (AI) is a rapidly advancing field in IT that involves the development of intelligent machines capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence. AI applications can be found in various domains, including natural language processing, computer vision, robotics, and machine learning. Machine learning, a subset of AI, focuses on enabling computer systems to learn from data and improve their performance over time without explicit programming. With the increasing availability of large datasets and powerful computational resources, AI and machine learning have the potential to revolutionize industries and drive innovation in areas such as healthcare, finance, and autonomous vehicles."

Task guide: Students have to read the statements and identify which ones are correct based on the information provided in the text.

1. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a rapidly declining field in IT.

2. Machine learning is a subset of AI that focuses on enabling computer systems to learn from data.

3. AI applications can only be found in the healthcare industry.

4. The potential impact of AI in industries like finance and autonomous vehicles is limited.

5. AI and machine learning have the potential to revolutionize various industries by driving innovation and improving performance.

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Do you have any questions left?

Thank you for your participation!