



PARAPHRASING

What is Paraphrasing?

- changing the wording of a text so that it is significantly different from the original source without changing the meaning.
- a key academic skill needed to avoid the risk of plagiarism and to demonstrate your understanding of a source.
- requires source citation within the sentence, which is called in-text citation.

Importance of Paraphrasing

- better than quoting information from an undistinguished passage
- helps you control the temptation to quote too much.
- helps you to grasp the full meaning of the original

Elements of Effective Paraphrasing

An effective paraphrase usually:

- has a different structure from the original.
- has a mainly different vocabulary.
- retains the same meaning.
- keeps some phrases like keywords or technical terms from the original passage.



Steps in Effective Paraphrasing

1. Reread the original passage and understand the context.
2. Write your paraphrased versions on a spreadsheet. Refer to the example on the slide.
3. Compare your rendition with the original.
4. Jot down your thoughts about it as a researcher.
5. Use quotation marks to identify any unique term or phraseology.
6. Record the source in Harvard referencing format (search online on how to cite sources for journals, books, interviews in a Harvard format, or click this link:
<https://owll.massey.ac.nz/referencing/harvard-style.php>)

PRACTICE 1:

Read the text below, then decide which of the three paraphrases (A–C) is best.

"Recent advances in lipid nanoparticle (LNP) technology have enabled targeted delivery of mRNA vaccines to specific cell types, significantly reducing systemic side effects while maintaining therapeutic efficacy. This breakthrough has particular implications for cancer immunotherapy and rare disease treatment." Source: Zhang et al., 2023

- A. Recent advances in LNP technology have allowed mRNA vaccines to target specific cells, reducing systemic side effects while keeping efficacy. This is important for cancer immunotherapy (Zhang et al., 2023).
- B. Innovations in lipid-based nanoparticle systems now allow mRNA vaccines to be precisely delivered to particular cells, minimizing adverse reactions throughout the body without compromising treatment effectiveness. This development is especially relevant for treating cancers and rare genetic disorders (Zhang et al., 2023).
- C. New progress in LNP technology helps mRNA vaccines reach specific cells, reducing side effects but keeping good results. This matters for cancer and rare diseases (Zhang et al., 2023).



TECHNIQUES FOR PARAPHRASING

1: Synonym Replacement (*Keep technical terms*)

e.g. argues > claims eighteenth century > 1700s
 wages > labor costs economize > saving

Model Example:

Original: "The **vaccine** *effectively prevents infection*."

→ Paraphrased 1: "The vaccine *successfully stops disease transmission*."
(*effectively* → *successfully*; *prevents* → *stops*; *infection* → *disease transmission*)

→ Paraphrased 2: "The immunization *successfully stops disease transmission*."

Exercises:

1. Original: "The drug *reduces inflammation*."

2. Original: "Clinical trials *require large samples*."

3. Original: "Researchers *developed a rapid diagnostic test*."

4. Original: "The treatment *targets cancer cells*."

5. Original: *"This method improves drug solubility."*

2: Word Class Conversion

e.g. explanation (noun) > explain (verb)

mechanical (adjective) > mechanize (verb)

profitable (adjective) > profitability (noun)

Model Example:

Original: *"The **analysis** confirmed the drug's safety."* (noun → verb)

→ Paraphrased 1: *"By analyzing the data, the drug's safety was confirmed."*

→ Paraphrased 2: *"By analyzing the data, the medication's safety was verified."*

Exercises:

1. Original: "The **development** of new antibiotics is urgent."

2. Original: "Patient **compliance** is essential."

3. Original: "The study demonstrated **significant** efficacy."



4. Original: "**Continuous** monitoring is recommended."

5. Original: "The **approval** process takes 12 months."

3: Sentence Restructuring or Changing the Word Order

e.g., "*The **most effective** treatment for diabetes was developed through genetic engineering.*"

→ Paraphrased 1: "*Through genetic engineering, researchers developed the most effective treatment for diabetes.*"

→ Paraphrased 2: "*Through genetic engineering, researchers developed **the optimal** diabetes therapy.*" (Moved prepositional phrase to front + changed "most effective" → "optimal")

Model Example 2:

Original: "*Scientists engineered nanoparticles to deliver drugs.*" (active → passive)

→ Paraphrased: "*Nanoparticles were engineered by researchers for medication delivery.*"

Exercises:

1. Original: "*Doctors prescribe antibiotics carefully.*" (active → passive)

2. Original: "*Because the side effects were mild, patients continued treatment.*" (clause order)

3. Original: *"The FDA evaluates new drugs for safety."* (active → passive)

4. Original: *"While effective, the treatment remains expensive."* (clause order)

5. Original: *"Researchers published findings in the Nature Journal."* (active → passive)

WORKSHEETS 1 For Master's Only

Read the following text and paraphrase it using the following techniques and cite the source.

Original Text (Quoted from Source):

"The newly approved bispecific antibody, mosunetuzumab, represents a breakthrough in lymphoma treatment. By simultaneously targeting CD20 on B-cells and CD3 on T-cells, it redirects the immune system to attack malignant cells while sparing healthy tissue. Clinical trials demonstrated a 60% complete response rate in patients with refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, with manageable cytokine release syndrome as the most common side effect."

Source:

Dickinson, M.J. et al. (2023) 'Mosunetuzumab, a first-in-class CD20xCD3 bispecific antibody, induces durable complete remissions in refractory DLBCL', *Nature Medicine*, 29(4), pp. 1120-1130. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-023-02317-4>

Type your answer here:



WORKSHEETS 2

Which of the following paraphrased statements is excellent, good, and poor?

1. *Original: "Scientists made a new asthma inhaler that works faster. It helps patients breathe better in 5 minutes instead of 15 minutes. In tests, 8 out of 10 people felt less wheezing. The inhaler has fewer side effects than the old ones."*

Version 1: "Scientists developed a faster-acting asthma inhaler. It enables patients to breathe easier after 5 minutes rather than 15 minutes. In trials, 80% of the participants in the study had less breathing trouble. This new inhaler is safer than its predecessors."

Version 2: "A new inhaler for asthma works in 5 minutes. Old inhalers take 15 minutes. Many people felt better. It is more safe."

Version 3: "Scientists made a new asthma inhaler that works in 5 minutes. It helps patients breathe better. 8 out of 10 people felt less wheezing."

2. *Original: "The new inhaler is easier for children to use because it has a sweet taste."*

Version 1: "The new inhaler is more user-friendly for children due to its sweet flavor."

Version 2: "The new inhaler is easier for kids because it has a sweet taste."

Version 3: "The inhaler tastes good, so children like it better."

3. *Original: "Mosunetuzumab's unique mechanism avoids the need for chemotherapy in eligible patients."*

Version 1: "The distinct mechanism of Mosunetuzumab eliminates the necessity for chemotherapy in qualified patients."



Version 2: *"Mosunetuzumab has a unique mechanism that prevents chemotherapy use."*

Version 3: *"Eligible patients may avoid chemotherapy due to mosunetuzumab's novel action."*

4. Paraphrase the quoted statement and cite the source.

"Over the past two decades, the pharmaceutical industry has moved very far from its original high purpose of discovering and producing useful new drugs. Now primarily a marketing machine to sell drugs of dubious benefit, this industry uses its wealth and power to co-opt every institution that might stand in its way, including the US Congress, the FDA, academic medical centers, and the medical profession itself." —

Reference: Angell, M. (2004) *The Truth About the Drug Companies: How They Deceive Us and What to Do About It*. New York: Random House.

Type your answer here:



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Module 3: From Data to Discourse
Unit 2: Paraphrasing

