

In other words: Paraphrasing

Adapted from a PPT presentation created by the Cedarbrook Middle School library in Elkins Park, PA

The Purpose of the lesson is to learn:

- o **How to put a passage **in your own words** without changing the meaning**
- o **How to find the main idea of the text in order to **paraphrase** it**

What is Paraphrasing?

- o **PARAPHRASING** is used to:
 - o **rewrite** the text in your own words
 - o **clarify** meaning
 - o avoid **PLAGIARISM**.

Paraphrasing is NOT

- Changing a couple of words.
- Deleting a couple of words or phrases.
- Rearranging the order of the words.

How to Paraphrase

- o Read the passage carefully
- o Identify the main ideas of the passage
- o Identify important words or phrases
- o Put the main points in your own words

Example 1

Option A

Original Passage

They have become part of our imaginations' landscape: the crusty Grinch who stole Christmas, gentle Horton the elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and the persistent Sam-I-Am with his green eggs and ham. All these and many more are the creations of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known to generations of readers as Dr. Seuss. Since publishing his first children's book over fifty years ago, Geisel became perhaps the most successful writer in the whole field of children's literature.

Paraphrase?

Theodor Geissel, known by everyone as Dr. Seuss, has been publishing children's books for over half a century. Because of characters Horton and Sam I Am, Dr. Seuss is the quintessential author in American children's literature.

Example 1

Option B

Original Passage

They have become part of our imaginations' landscape: the crusty Grinch who stole Christmas, gentle Horton the elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and the persistent Sam-I-Am with his green eggs and ham. All these and many more are the creations of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known to generations of readers as Dr. Seuss. Since publishing his first children's book over fifty years ago, Geisel became perhaps the most successful writer in the whole field of children's literature.

Paraphrase?

- They have become part of our imaginations: the crusty Grinch who stole Christmas, gentle Horton the elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and the persistent Sam-I-Am. All these and many more are the creations of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss. Since writing his first children's book over fifty years ago, Geisel became perhaps the best writer in the whole field of children's literature.

Example 2

Option A

Original Passage

The adventuresome Cat in the Hat runs amok while Mother is away, leaving a horrible mess for the two astonished children who are so well behaved. The remarkable qualities of the story are its rhyme--done with only 223 words--and its quirky illustrations that are as silly as the tale itself.

Paraphrase?

The Cat in the Hat has many qualities that appeal to children. Using only 223 words and a catchy rhyme scheme, Dr. Seuss wrote the story of the naughty Cat in the Hat who gets himself into trouble. Children enjoy the adventurous story, and they can also learn to read because of the rhyming words.

Example 2

Option B

Original Passage

The adventuresome Cat in the Hat runs amok while Mother is away, leaving a horrible mess for the two astonished children who are so well behaved. The remarkable qualities of the story are its rhyme--done with only 223 words--and its quirky illustrations that are as silly as the tale itself.

Paraphrase?

The crazy Cat in the Hat runs wild while Mother is away, leaving a mess for the two surprised children who are so well behaved. The remarkable qualities of the story are its rhyme--done with only 223 words--and its illustrations that are as silly as the tale itself.

Paraphrasing Practice 1

The enormous, pungent, and extremely well marketed Maine Lobster Festival is held every late July in the state's midcoast region, meaning the western side of Penobscot Bay, the nerve stem of Maine's lobster industry. What's called the midcoast runs from Owl's Head and Thomaston in the south to Belfast in the north.

Wallace, David Foster. "Consider the Lobster." *Gourmet*, August 2004. Web.

Paraphrasing Practice 2

Tourism and lobster are the midcoast region's two main industries, and they're both warm-weather enterprises, and the Maine Lobster Festival represents less an intersection of the industries than a deliberate collision, joyful and lucrative and loud.

Wallace, David Foster. "Consider the Lobster." *Gourmet*, August 2004. Web.

Paraphrasing Practice 3

Taxonomically speaking, a lobster is a marine crustacean of the family Homaridae, characterized by five pairs of jointed legs, the first pair terminating in large pincerish claws used for subduing prey. Like many other species of benthic carnivore, lobsters are both hunters and scavengers. They have stalked eyes, gills on their legs, and antennae. There are dozens of different kinds worldwide, of which the relevant species here is the Maine lobster, *Homarus americanus*.

Wallace, David Foster. "Consider the Lobster." *Gourmet*, August 2004. Web.