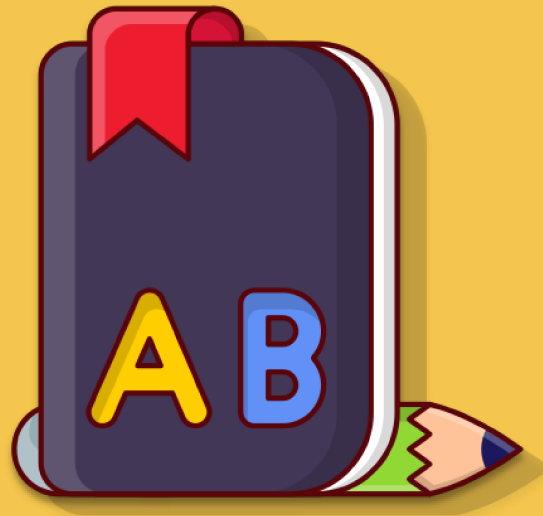


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The Art of Paraphrasing

Lesson 1: Paraphrasing

Welcome, fellow word wranglers, to the exciting world of paraphrasing! Paraphrasing, my dear friends, is like being a master chef. You're given a set of ingredients (words) and your task is to whip up a new dish (sentence) that has the same flavor (meaning) but looks different.

In the grand banquet of IELTS essay writing, paraphrasing is the secret sauce in three key dishes:

1. **The Appetizer (Rephrasing the Topic):** Just as you wouldn't serve the same dish twice at a dinner party, you can't simply repeat the essay topic verbatim. You need to introduce the topic with a fresh twist, like a chef presenting a classic dish with a modern presentation.
2. **The Main Course (Giving an Example):** When you serve up an example, it's like a side dish complementing the main course. It has to match the flavor of the preceding sentence, but you can't just copy the ingredients. A sprinkle of new words here and there can spice things up and show off your culinary (or in this case, vocabulary) skills.
3. **The Dessert (Summarizing):** The last paragraph of your essay is like the dessert, a sweet summary of the main points. It borrows flavors from the previous dishes (paragraphs),

but you need to mix it up a bit to leave a lasting impression.

Now, I know what you're thinking. "But I'm no master chef! I don't have a pantry full of fancy words!" Fear not, my friends. I'm here to guide you through the kitchen of paraphrasing. Let's roll up our sleeves and get cooking!

Here are **three ways to paraphrase**:

1. The Synonym Swap:

Original Topic: Governments should be responsible for funding and managing scientific research rather than private organizations.

Paraphrased: **State** ought to be **accountable** for **financing** and **overseeing** scientific exploration **instead of** private **entities**.

Original Topic: Certain personal qualities cannot be achieved through university studies.

Paraphrased: **Specific individual traits** cannot be **attained via collegiate education**.

2. The Negative-Antonym Flip:

This comes in handy when you are not able to think up enough synonyms.

Original Topic: TV Advertisements that target children should be **banned**.

Paraphrased: TV commercials that are aimed at children should **not be permitted**. (Here, 'not be permitted' is the antonym of 'banned')

Original Topic: Many people believe that film is a **less important** art than other forms such as literature and painting.

Paraphrased: Many people consider other forms of art such as literature and painting as being **more significant** than cinema.

3. The Word Formation Shuffle:

Original Topic: Governments should be **responsible** for funding and managing scientific research rather than private organizations.

What if we change 'responsible' to 'responsibility'? This forces a grammatical cha-cha-cha, leading to a new sentence structure.

Paraphrased: The **responsibility** of investing in and conducting scientific research should rest with the government instead of private companies.

Original Topic: Learning at university would be more **effective** if men and women were educated separately.

Paraphrased: The **effectiveness** of learning is diminished when men and women are educated together.

And voila! You've just cooked up a feast of paraphrased sentences. Remember, paraphrasing is not just about changing words, it's about preserving the flavor while presenting a new dish. Happy cooking, word chefs!

Exercise: Paraphrase the following topics. Remember, there is not single correct answer. Try to employ a variety of the techniques mentioned above.

- 1 Nowadays many people communicate using social media.
- 2 Nowadays, men's sport is given far more attention in society than women's sports.

- 3 Many people play sport when they are young, but then stop when they become adults.
- 4 Good marketing is the key to running a successful business.
- 5 Some people believe that nowadays we have too much choice.
- 6 Open plan offices offer a better working environment for staff than a normal office.
- 7 Children often complain that history lessons are boring because they are about a past that is dead.
- 8 People spend a major part of their adult life at work, and job satisfaction is an important part of individual well-being.
- 9 Advances in technology mean that many people today work from home.
- 10 Some people think that the teenage years are the happiest times of most people's lives. Others think that adult life brings more happiness in spite of greater responsibilities.
- 11 Some people think that a sense of competition should be encouraged in children. Others believe that children who are taught to cooperate rather than compete become more useful adults.
- 12 Global warming is one of the most serious issues facing the world today.
- 13 Successful sportsmen can earn a great deal more than people in other important professions. Some

people think this is fully justified while others think it is unfair.

14 Nowadays we are producing more and more rubbish.

15 Today, more people are waiting until their thirties to get married and have children.

16 Many people have problems managing money.

17 Some people believe that children should be taught how to manage money at school.

18 Some people think that governments should try to reduce air traffic by taxing it more heavily.

19 Many people use customer reviews on the Internet to make decisions about what they buy.

20 Men and women are capable of doing all jobs equally well.

Possible Answers:

1 These days, a large number of individuals utilize social media as a means of communication.

2 In contemporary society, male sports often receive more recognition and focus than female sports.

3 A lot of individuals engage in sports during their youth, but cease to do so upon reaching adulthood.

4 Efficient marketing strategies are crucial for the success of a business.

5 There is a belief among some individuals that the amount of choices we have today is excessive.

6 Compared to traditional offices, open plan offices are believed to provide a superior work environment for employees.

7 History lessons often receive complaints from children for being dull due to their focus on a past that is no longer relevant.

8 Considering the significant portion of adult life spent working, job satisfaction plays a vital role in personal well-being.

9 Technological advancements have enabled many individuals to work from the comfort of their homes.

10 While some believe that teenage years are the most joyful period in life, others argue that adulthood, despite its increased responsibilities, brings more happiness.

11 There are differing views on whether children should be encouraged to compete or taught to cooperate, with the latter believed to produce more beneficial adults.

12 The issue of global warming is among the most critical challenges the world is currently facing.

13 While successful athletes often earn significantly more than individuals in other crucial professions, opinions vary on whether this is justifiable or unfair.

14 We are currently generating an increasing amount of waste.

15 In recent times, more individuals are choosing to marry and start families in their thirties.

16 A significant number of individuals struggle with financial management.

17 There is a belief among some that financial management should be included in school curriculums.

18 Some individuals propose that governments should attempt to decrease air traffic by imposing heavier taxes.

19 Many consumers rely on online reviews when deciding on purchases.

20 Both men and women have the ability to perform all jobs with equal proficiency.



The art of maintaining ‘flow’

Imagine you're a novice driver, gripping the wheel of your first car, a bit nervous, a bit excited. You've seen experienced drivers, effortlessly cruising down the highway, their cars gliding like swans on a serene lake. You, on the other hand, feel more like a duckling, waddling and quacking, trying to keep up. This is quite similar to how most IELTS students feel when they compare their writing to that of an expert writer.

The expert writer's essay seems to flow like a well-paved highway, smooth and unobstructed, while yours might feel more like a bumpy country road, full of potholes and sudden turns. The expert's writing seems to have a GPS of its own, guiding the reader seamlessly from one idea to the next, maintaining a cohesive narrative throughout, while yours might feel like it needs a few more road signs and a bit less repetition.

Now, you might think that these expert writers were born with a silver pen in their hands, that their writing flows naturally like a river to the sea. But let me tell you a secret: it's not magic, it's mechanics. Just like driving, writing is a skill that can be learned, practiced, and perfected.

So, buckle up, dear students, because this section of the book is your driving school. It's where you'll learn the rules of the road, the tricks of the trade, and the shortcuts to success. By the end of it, you'll be writing essays that flow like a Rolls-Royce on an open highway. Ready to start your engines?