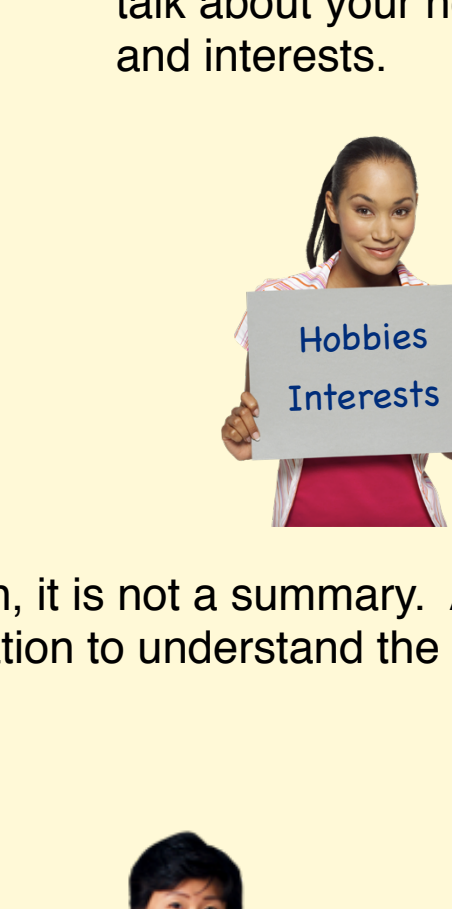


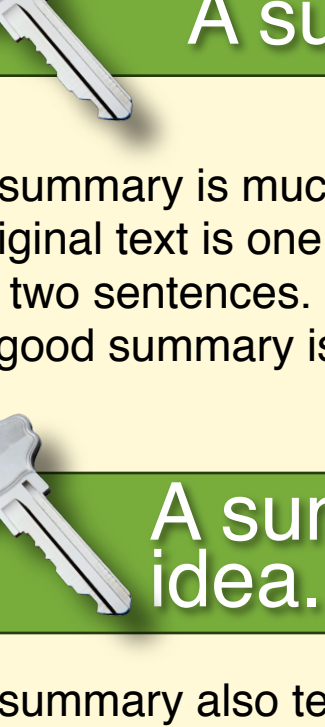
What is a Summary?

A summary tells the main idea of a story, the news, a report, or any information. A summary tells the most important facts or ideas. A summary is useful for many things.

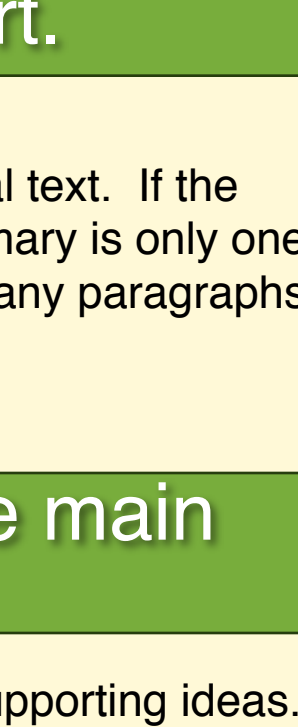
When you introduce yourself, you give a summary. You tell only the facts that people want to hear.



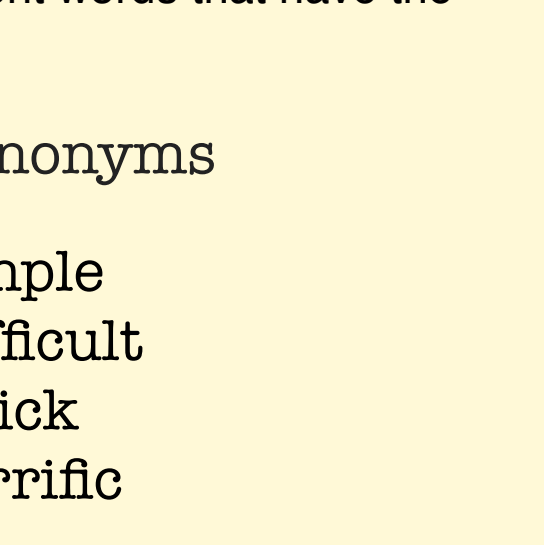
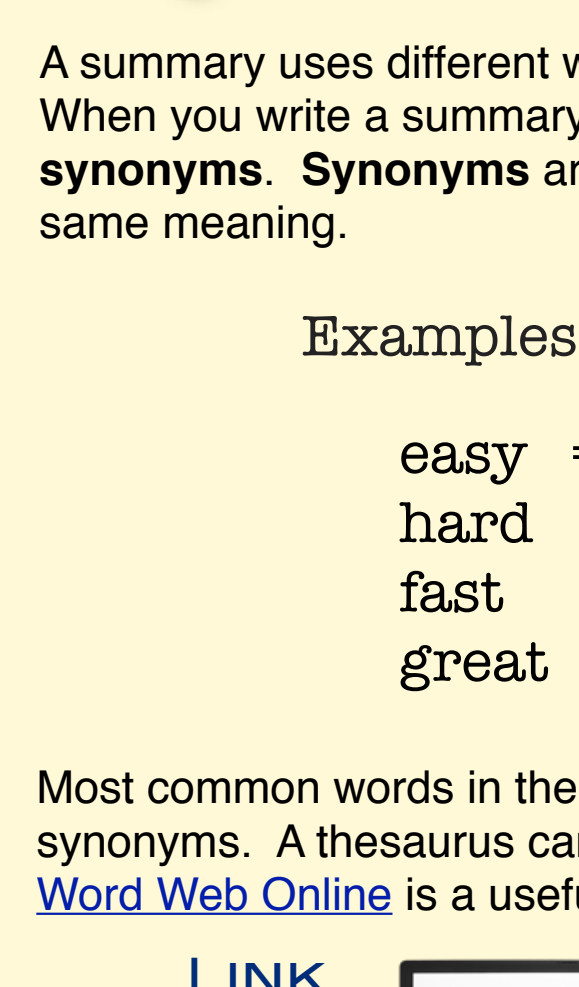
In a job interview, you talk about your education and work experience.



With new friends, you can talk about your hobbies and interests.



If you give too much information, it is not a summary. A summary gives enough information to understand the main idea.



Examples of Synonyms

easy = simple
hard = difficult
fast = quick
great = terrific

Most common words in the English language have synonyms. A thesaurus can help you find good synonyms. [Word Web Online](http://www.wordwebonline.com) is a useful thesaurus.

LINK

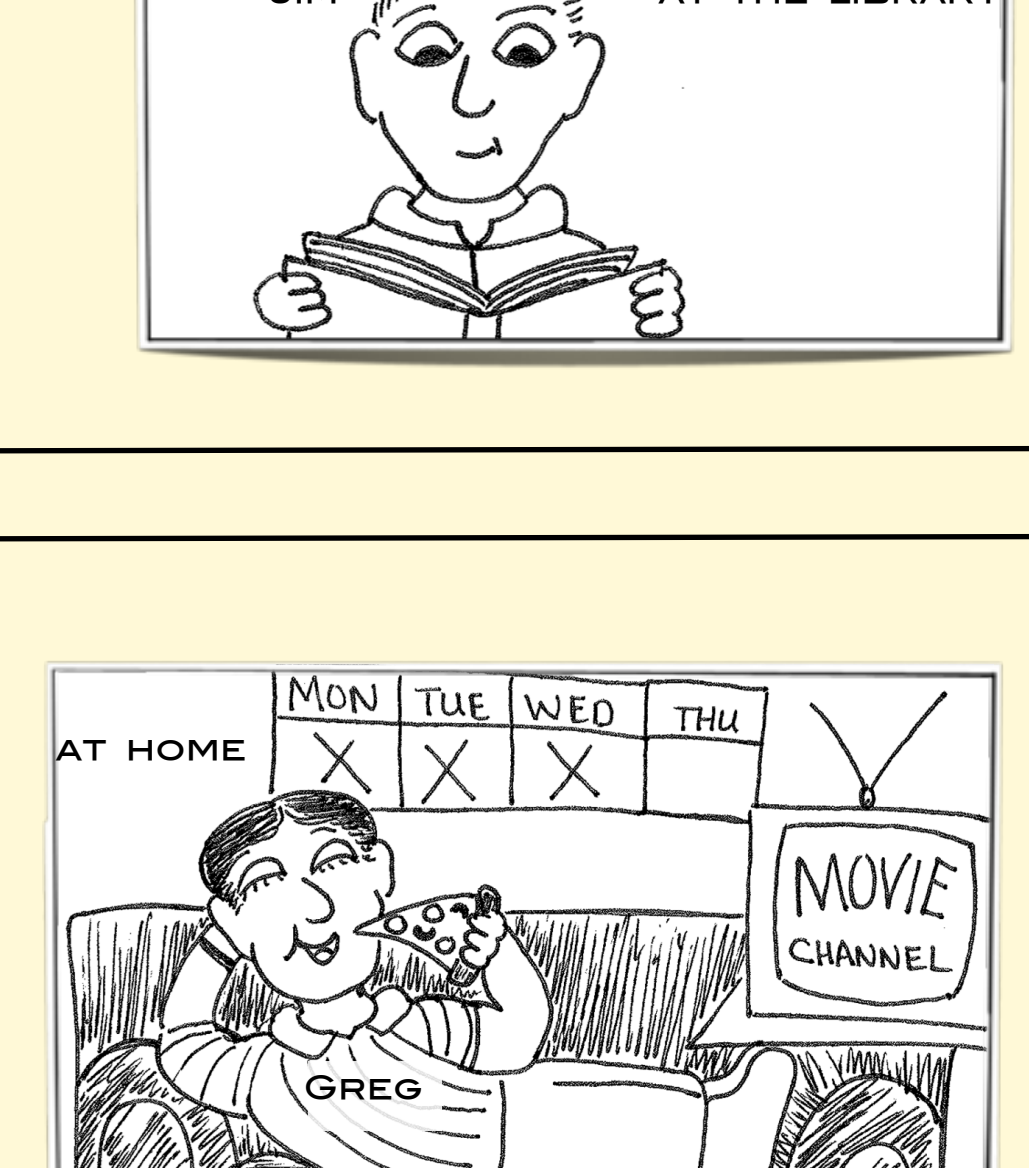
<http://www.wordwebonline.com>

SUMMARY WARM UP

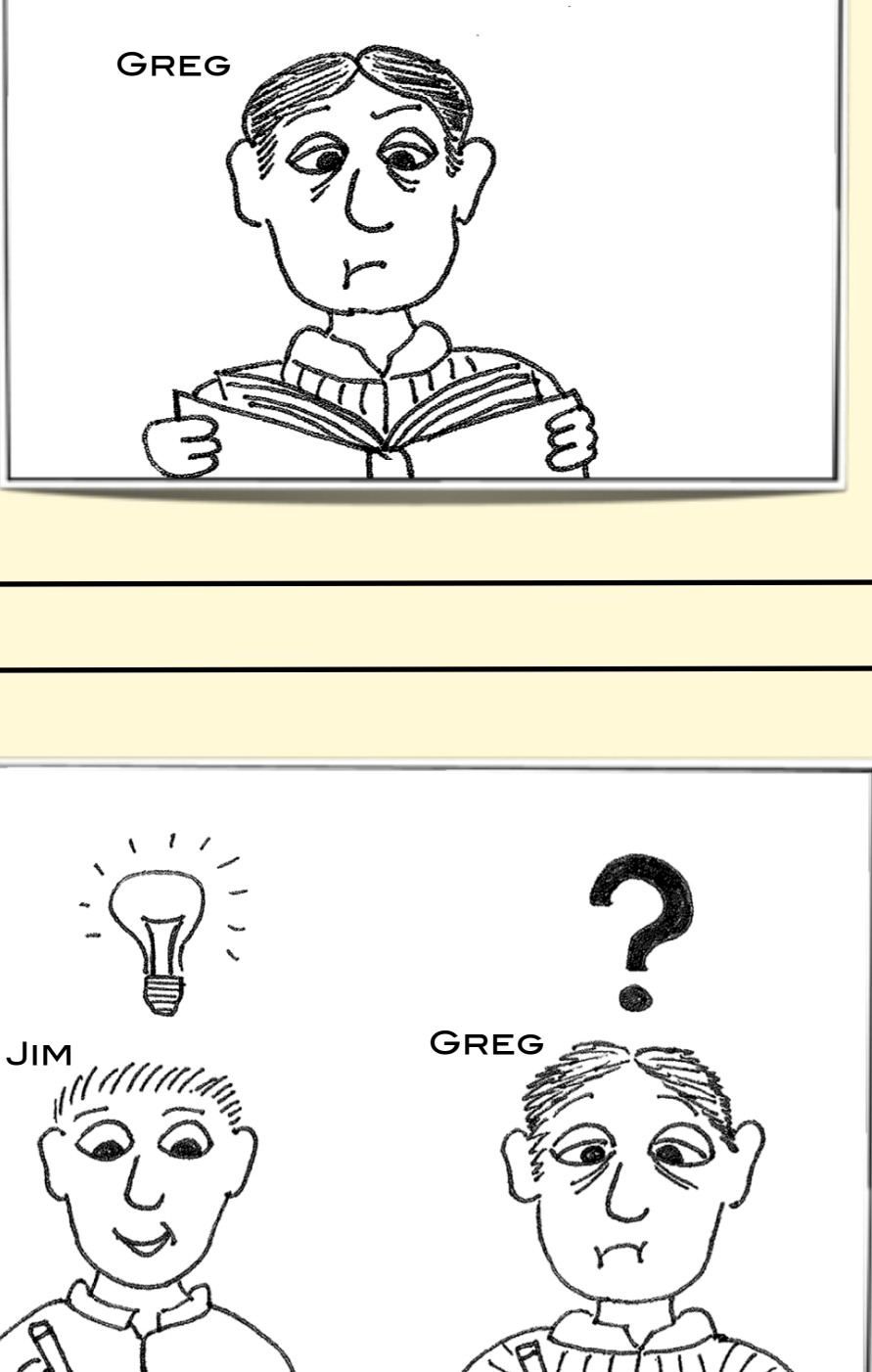
A summary is like describing a picture in one sentence. Look at each picture. Decide what is happening. Write one sentence to describe each picture.

1.

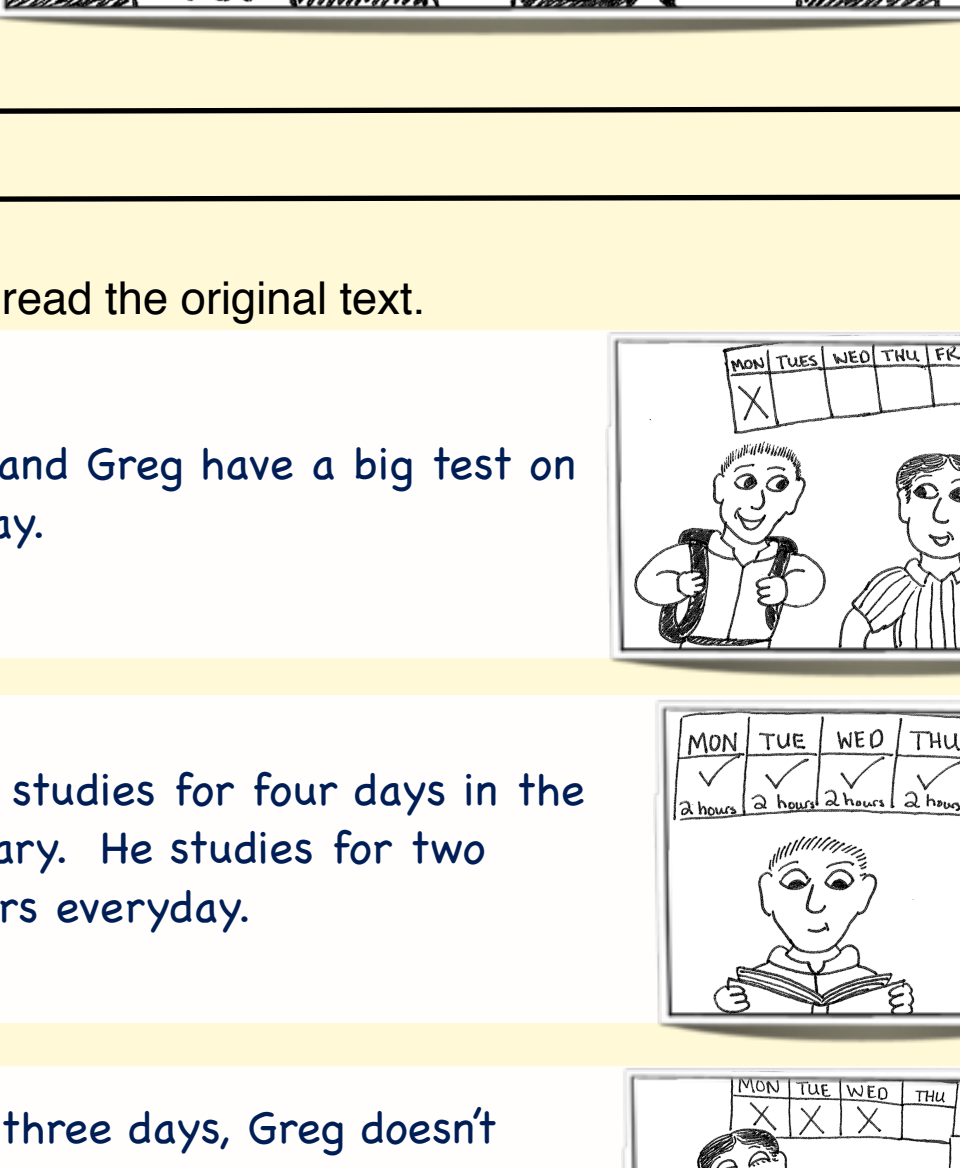
Sketches are placeholders. Replace with real photos.



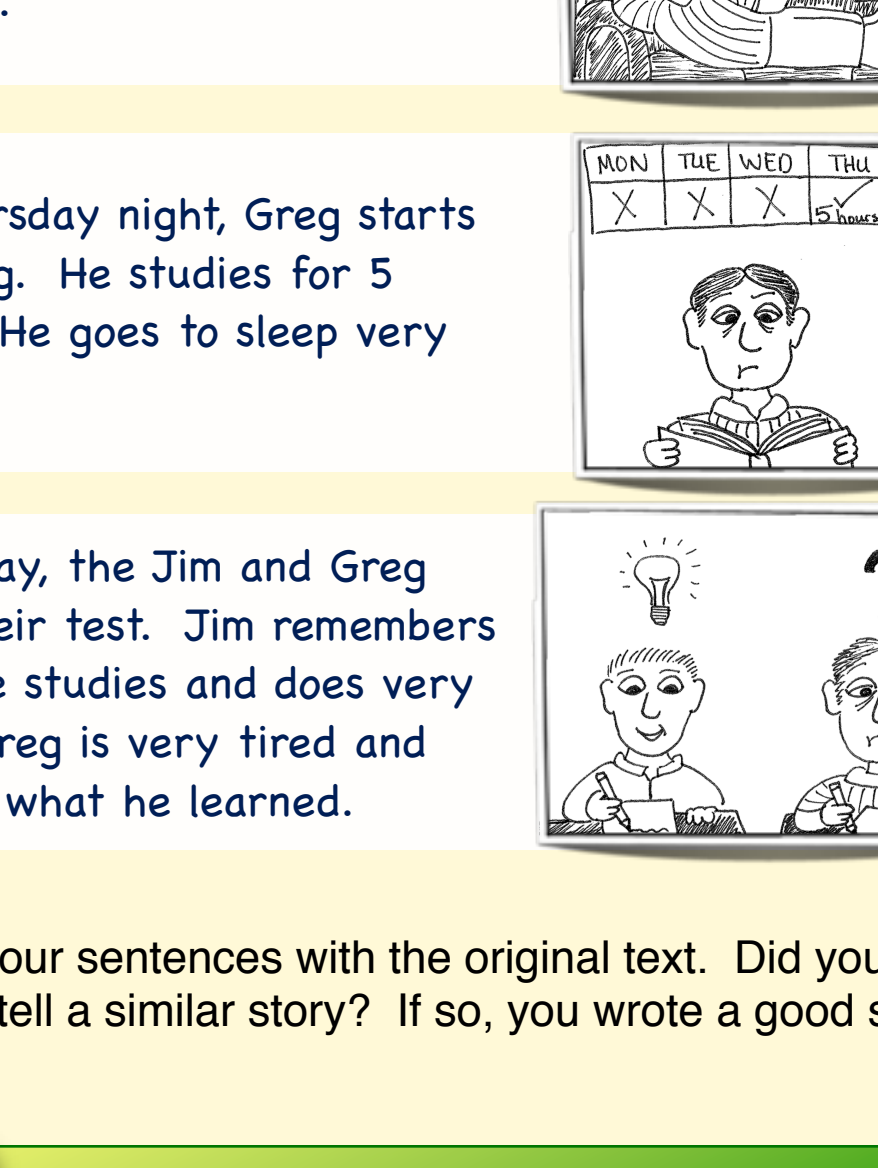
2.



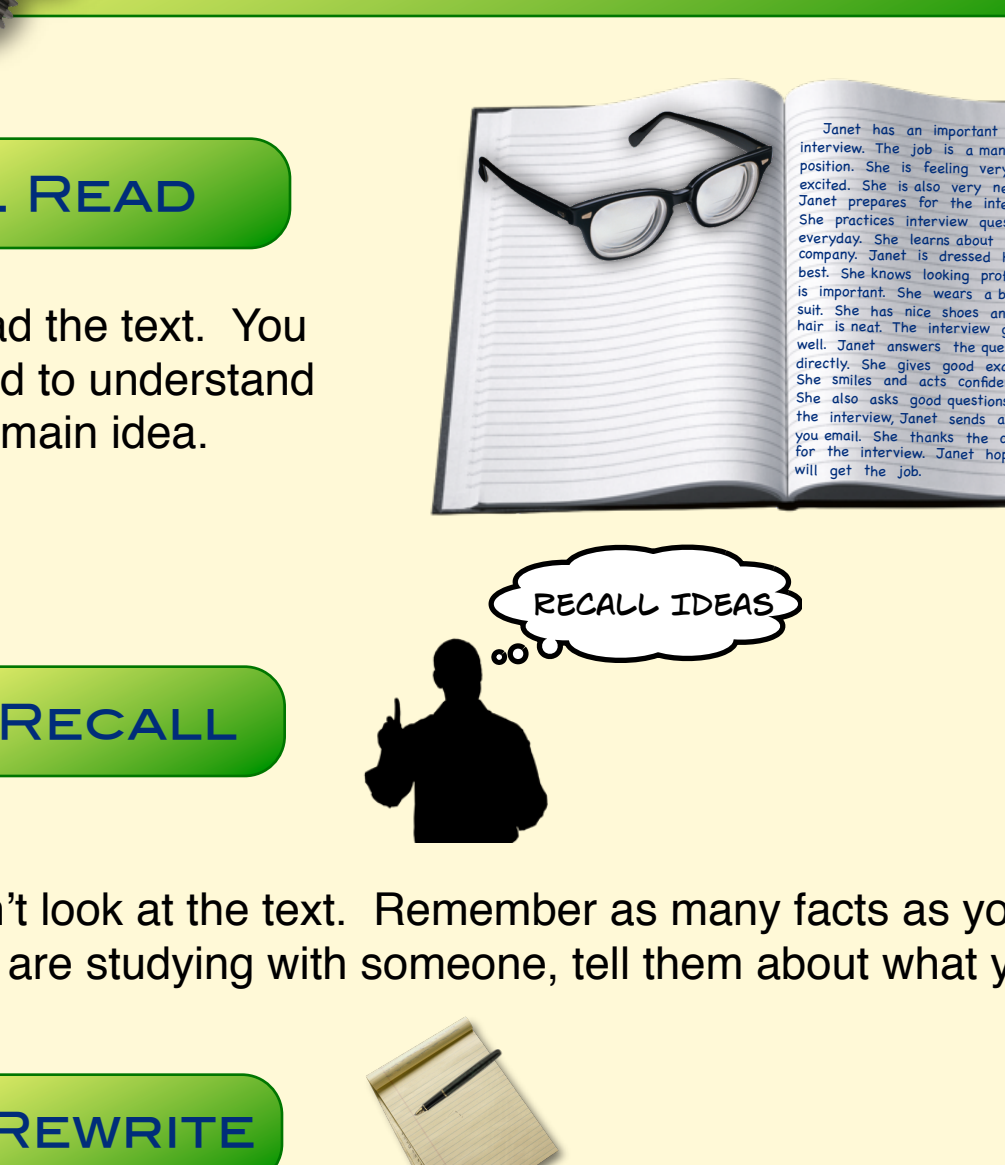
3.



4.

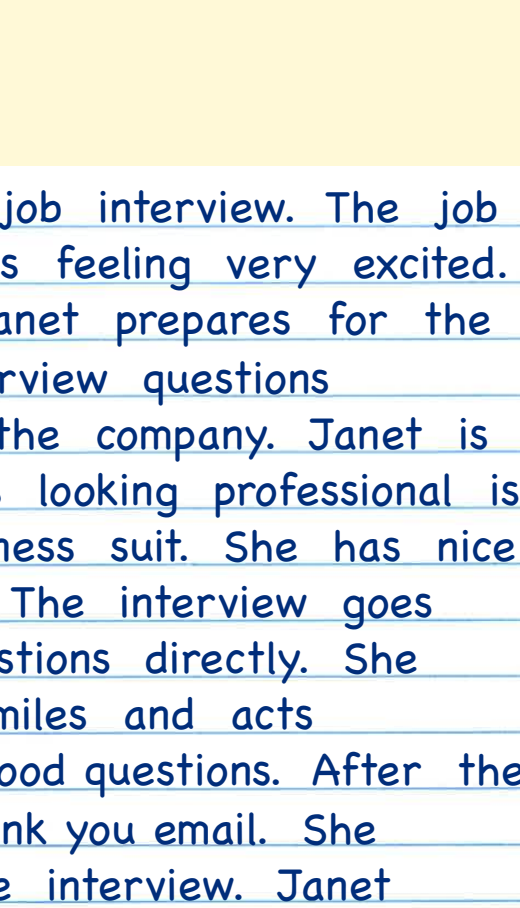


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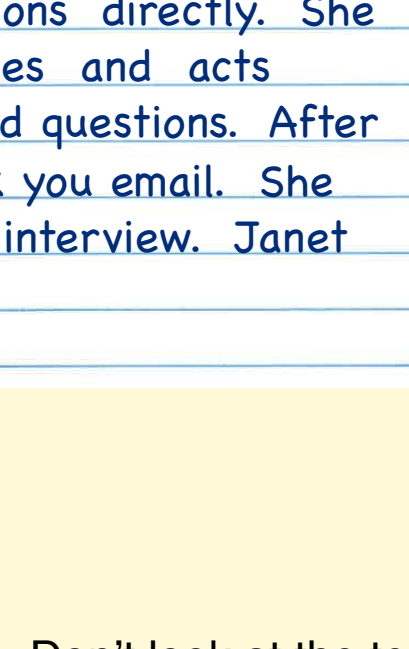


Now read the original text.

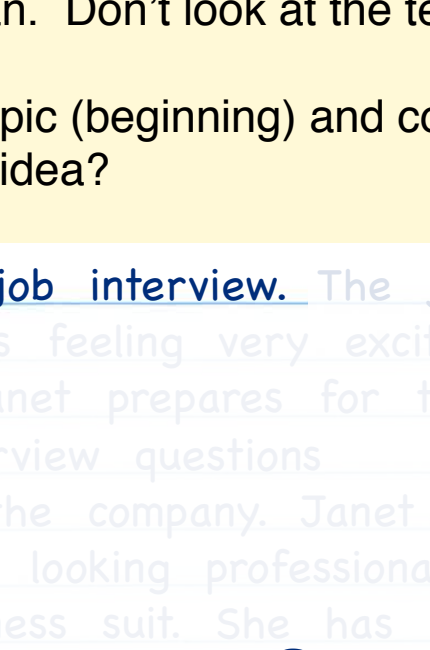
Jim and Greg have a big test on Friday.



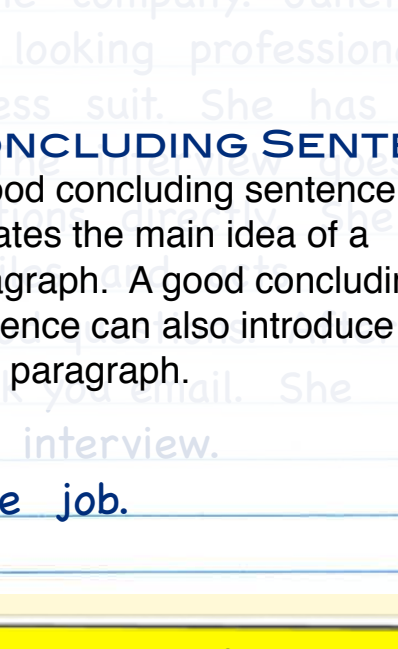
Jim studies for four days in the library. He studies for two hours everyday.



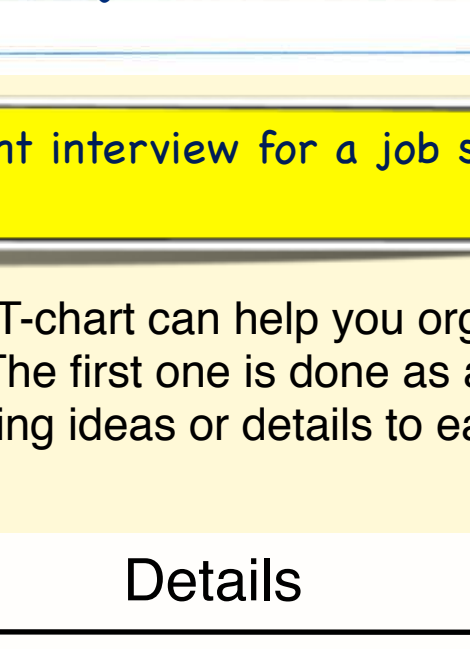
For three days, Greg doesn't study. He watches TV and relaxes.



On Thursday night, Greg starts studying. He studies for 5 hours. He goes to sleep very late.



On Friday, the Jim and Greg take their test. Jim remembers what he studies and does very well. Greg is very tired and forgets what he learned.

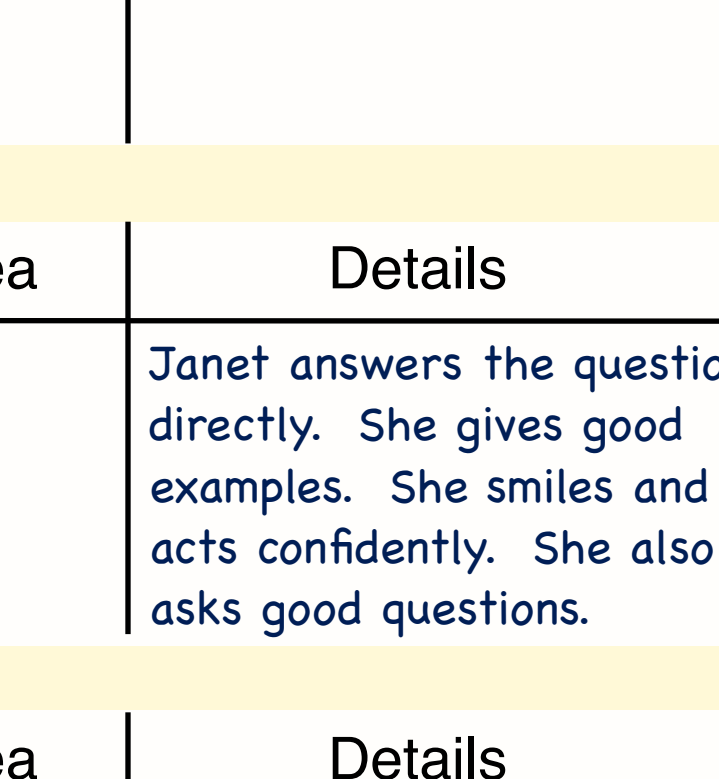


Compare your sentences with the original text. Did your sentences tell a similar story? If so, you wrote a good summary!

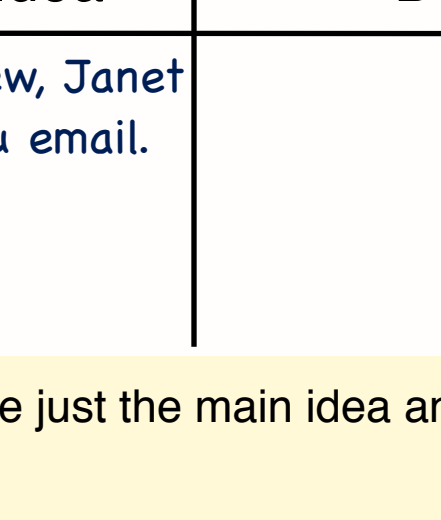
STEPS FOR WRITING A SUMMARY

1. READ

Read the text. You need to understand the main idea.

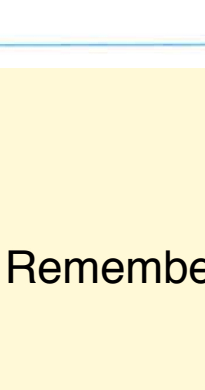


2. RECALL



Don't look at the text. Remember as many facts as you can. If you are studying with someone, tell them about what you read.

3. REWRITE

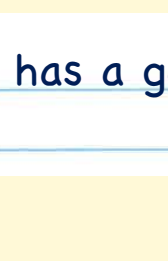


Rewrite the most important information in your own words. Include facts or ideas that support the main idea. Your writing should be much shorter than the original text.

PRACTICE

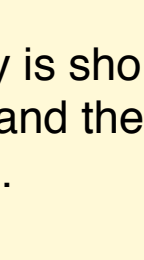
Read the following story and practice writing a summary.

1. Read



Janet has an important job interview. The job is a manager position. She is feeling very excited. She is also very nervous. Janet prepares for the interview. She practices interview questions everyday. She learns about the company. Janet is dressed her best. She knows looking professional is important. She wears a business suit. She has nice shoes and her hair is neat. The interview goes well. Janet answers the questions directly. She gives good examples. She smiles and acts confidently. She also asks good questions. After the interview, Janet sends a thank you email. She thanks the company for the interview. Janet hopes she will get the job.

2. Recall



Remember as many facts as you can. Don't look at the text.

Now, look at the text. Look at the topic (beginning) and concluding (final) sentences. What is the main idea?

Janet has an important job interview. The job is a manager position. She is feeling very excited. She is also very nervous. Janet prepares for the interview. She practices interview questions everyday. She learns about the company. Janet is dressed her best. She knows looking professional is important. She wears a business suit. She has nice shoes and her hair is neat. The interview goes well. Janet answers the questions directly. She gives good examples. She smiles and acts confidently. She also asks good questions. After the interview, Janet sends a thank you email. She thanks the company for the interview. Janet hopes she will get the job.

Main Idea: Janet has an important interview for a job she hopes to get.

Supporting Idea #1: Janet prepares for the interview.

Supporting Idea #2: Janet is dressed her best.

Supporting Idea #3: The interview goes very well.

Supporting Idea #4: After the interview, Janet sends a thank you email.

3. Rewrite

Remember the keys to writing a summary.

Short

Your summary should be short. The original text is one paragraph, so your summary should be one or two sentences.

Main Idea

Decide which supporting ideas and details are the most important. You don't have to include all of the supporting ideas or details.

Different Words

Use your own words as much as possible.

Sample Summaries

Janet has a good job interview because she prepares well.

Janet gets ready for an important job interview. She practices questions and learns about the company.

Janet wants an important job. She prepares for the interview by practicing.

Janet prepares for a job interview. She does very well because she acts professionally.

All of these sentences are good summaries. The details are different, but the main idea is clear.

Conclusion

A summary is shorter than the original text. A summary tells the main idea and the most important facts. A summary uses your own words.