

Handout 2

Exercise 1. Summary Paragraph errors.

Below is the **first draft** of a student's summary paragraph and **instructor comments**. Match the words, phrases, or sentences **with the teacher comment** that accompanies them.

(1) Rosenbaum's **first point is that** the idea of content curation is misunderstood – or misused by people to sell things. He **hates (2)** stores that use the term "curation". **According to** Rosenbaum, these stores are not really curating because they are just creating collections of the same things. **This is different from** content curation, but I guess stores do it because they just want to make more money **(3)**. Rosenbaum **further states that** content curation **should be** defined as creating "entirely new editorial works by finding, filtering, and contextualizing" **(4)** information. **He goes on to argue that** this practice is **critical** now as there is so much content on the Internet that is overwhelming. **He includes facts such as** every day, 50 million photos are uploaded to Facebook, 864,000 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube, and 294 billion emails are sent **(5)**. **He asserts that** this is too much information to process, and readers need help sorting through it. Content curation provides this help. **Rosenbaum ends by saying that** curation is a new critical role for journalists.

- a. The word is too emotional – can you use a more neutral word?
- b. This is a direct quote from the article – add quotation marks or paraphrase it.
- c. An important quote to include – good!
- d. Please, begin with a topic sentence that introduces the paragraph.
- e. Delete this – no personal opinions in the summary paragraph.

Exercise 2. Summary Paragraph Sample

Analyze the structure of the sample summary paragraph and answer the following questions:

What does the paragraph start with?

How many ideas are mentioned in the paragraph?

What transitions are used to introduce each new idea?

What expressions are used to introduce details?

Rosenbaum **makes three points** in his article. **The first point is that** the idea of content curation is misunderstood – or misused by people to sell things. He **criticizes** stores that use the term "curation". **According to** Rosenbaum, these stores are not really curating because they are just creating collections of the same things. **This is different from** content curation. Rosenbaum **further states that** content curation **should be** defined as creating "entirely new editorial works by finding, filtering, and contextualizing" information. **He goes on to argue that** this practice is **critical** now as there is so much content on the Internet that is overwhelming. **He includes facts such as** "every day, 50 million photos are uploaded to Facebook, 864,000 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube, and 294 billion emails are sent." **He asserts that** this is too much information to process, and readers need help sorting through it. Content curation provides this help. **Rosenbaum ends by saying that** curation is a new critical role for journalists.