# Flashcards

## l8

**Q1. What is a précis?**

A1. A précis is a clear, compact, and logical summary of an article or book chapter that preserves only the essential ideas.

**Q2. What are some uses of a précis?**

A2. Essay/exam preparation, note-taking, annotated bibliographies, assessing reading comprehension, improving reading skills.

**Q3. What skills are needed for précis writing?**

A3. Concentration, alertness, sensitivity to word meanings and author's viewpoint, ability to distinguish major and minor points, a sense of proportion and emphasis.

**Q4. What are the steps to writing a précis?**

A4. Read the entire text attentively, recognize the author's tone and viewpoint, reread if necessary, note and disregard introductory parts, underline key phrases and ideas, note unfamiliar words, observe the author's emphasis.

**Q5. When selecting ideas for a précis, what question should you ask yourself?**

A5. If this idea were omitted, would the fundamental meaning of the article be changed?

**Q6. What guidelines apply to Dance 1500 précis assignments?**

A6. Use assigned articles only, use clear factual expressions, do not copy the original style, do not use quotes, do not introduce your own ideas or criticize the author, write in the third person, limit to two pages (400-450 words), include a personal statement on article choice, include an MLA citation.

**Q7. Why is précis writing assigned?**

A7. To deepen intellectual absorption of readings, improve reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills, and increase knowledge of dance research.

**Q8. What should be included at the end of a précis?**

A8. A one- or two-sentence statement explaining the article choice and an MLA citation.

**Q9. What formatting is required for the précis submission?**

A9. Lab #, instructor's name, student name, number, course number and name, date, and the précis title.

**Q10. What are some examples of where précis writing techniques are used?**

A10. Newspaper headlines, opening paragraphs of articles, synopses for performances, course outlines and bios.

**Q11. What is the word limit for the Dance 1500 précis assignment?**

A11. 400-450 words.

**Q12. What is the maximum length of the précis?**

A12. No more than two printed pages.

**Q13. What font size and spacing are required for the précis?**

A13. 12pt font, double-spaced.

**Q14. What is the grade for the précis assignment?**

A14. Out of 10.

**Q15. Where can the grading rubric be found?**

A15. On the course website.

**Q16. What are some characteristics of a great précis?**

A16. Accurate summary of key points, comprehensive, efficient, clear connection between author's ideas, correct writing and grammar, personal statement included, bibliographic citation included.

**Q17. Where can examples of excellent précis be found?**

A17. Under the FAQ section of the course website (www.yorku.ca/cauthery).

**Q18. Should a cover page be included with the précis?**

A18. No.

**Q19. What is the submission method for the précis?**

A19. A hard copy submitted at the lecture.

**Q20. What are the due dates for the précis assignments?**

A20. September 28th, 2011; January 11th, 2012; February 29th, 2012.