**Paraphrasing**

**Read the passage in 30 seconds then rewrite it in your own words. You will have 90 seconds to type out the paraphrase in your own words. Please note the idea is not to memorize the passage but to ensure that all the points are included.**

**1. The Antarctic is the vast source of cold on our planet, just as the sun is the source of our heat, and it exerts tremendous control on our climate. The cold ocean water around Antarctica flows north to mix with warmer water from the tropics, and its upwellings help to cool both the surface water and our atmosphere. Yet the fragility of this regulating system is now threatened by human activity.**

 The Antarctic is the Earth's largest source of coolness. Its cold water migrates north and merges with the hot tropical water, which helps to cool both our water and the atmosphere. Unfortunately, humans are now starting to damage this delicate system.

**2. The twenties were the years when drinking was against the law, and the law was a bad joke because everyone knew of a local bar where liquor could be had. They were the years when organized crime ruled the cities, and the police seemed powerless to do anything against it. Classical music was forgotten while jazz spread throughout the land, and men like Louis Armstrong became the heroes of the young. The flapper was born in the twenties, and with her bobbed hair and short skirts, she symbolized, perhaps more than anyone or anything else, America's break with the past.**

 The early nineteenth century was the time where unruliness ruled America, police men didn't know how to enforce the law, people drank even though it was illegal, jazz became hugely populars and great musicians, such as Bix Beiderbecke and Count Basie, became the idols of the kids in America. More than anything, women began wearing short hair and revealing skirts, the biggest sign that America was changing its traditional way of life.

**3. Of the more than 1000 bicycling deaths each year, three-fourths are caused by head injuries. Half of those killed are school-age children. One study concluded that wearing a bike helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent. In an accident, a bike helmet absorbs the shock and cushions the head.**

 Most of the many hundreds bicycling accidents every year, half of which kill school-age children, are caused by injuries to the head which could be avoided if people wore helmets. There has even been a study that proved that helmets reduce the risk of your head being hurt by more than three fourths . In an accident, the helmets absorbs most of the impact, and softens the blow to your head.

**4. Matisse is the best painter ever at putting the viewer at the scene. He's the most realistic of all modern artists, if you admit the feel of the breeze as necessary to a landscape and the smell of oranges as essential to a still life. "The Casbah Gate" depicts the well-known gateway that pierces the southern wall of the city near the sultan's palace. With scrubby coats of ivory, aqua, blue, and rose delicately fenced by the liveliest gray outline in art history. Matisse gets the essence of a Tangier afternoon, the sentry who sits and surveys those who pass through the gate.**

 The painter Henri Matisse is excellent at making people feel as they´re close to what they see being painted due to his incredible realism. His famous ¨The Casbah Gate¨is a great example of this. His use of color and texture makes you feel like you're at the scene of the painting.

**5. While the Sears Tower is arguably the greatest achievement in skyscraper engineering so far, it's unlikely that architects and engineers have abandoned the quest for the world's tallest building. The question is: Just how high can a building go? A structural engineer has designed a skyscraper nearly one-half mile high, twice as tall as the Sears Tower and another architect claims that existing technology could produce a 500-story building.**

  Though the Sears Tower is known as one of the best-designed skyscraper that has yet to be built, architects are still trying to make bigger buildings. Yet people wonder how tall it is possible to build a building. Architect Robert Sobel insists that it could be possible to build a skyscraper a couple of hundred of stories tall, and engineer William LeMessurier has already designed a building two times as tall as the Sears Tower.

**6. By mid-December, 1914, British troops had been fighting on the Continent for over five months. Casualties had been shocking, positions had settled into self-destructive stalemate, and sensitive people now perceived that the war, far from promising to be over by Christmas, was going to extend itself to hitherto unimagined reaches of suffering and irony.**

 After more than five months of fighting, the British had lost so many men and they were unable to make progress. People began to realize that the war would not end before Christmas. Instead, it would continue for longer and be more ironic than they had ever imagined.

**7. The koala bear of Australia is a living “Teddy Bear.” Its thick coat of gray fur  
is just as soft as the beloved toy. The koala has a large head, big ears and small,  
dark eyes that look at you without expression. Its nose, as black as patent leather,  
seems too big for the rest of its face.**

 The koala bear lives in Australia. It is really a “Teddy Bear” that is alive. It has thick gray fur that feels as soft as that of the toy bear. The koala has special features: big head, large ears, and little, dark eyes without expression. As black as shiny leather, the koala’s nose appears to be too large for his face. A gentle small animal, the koala has only one way to defend itself from its enemies. Its color is its only protection. Making no nest, the koala just sits where branches fork in a tree. Without a tail, the koala cannot keep itself balanced like a bird. The koala eats only the leaves of gum trees which it likes best. If all of its special food is eaten, the koala will not look for food outside its own area. It will remain where it is and die of starvation.

**8. Like many dogs, a Belgian sheepdog named Rider became so focused on chasing down a squirrel that he paid no attention to the wheelbarrow directly in front of him. The squirrel got away, but Rider collided head on with the wheelbarrow. Rider broke his scapula, broke a rib, and also punctured a lung. Though he was likely in a lot of pain, he only needed rest. He did not have to have surgery**