**Paraphrasing**

**What is paraphrasing?**

Paraphrasing is formulating someone else’s ideas in your own words. When you are paraphrasing, you are rewriting a passage without changing the meaning of the original text. When paraphrasing, you should be careful not to use wording that is too similar to the original.

**Examples**

Original:

“In the same ways as Sherlock Holmes works on a case, a professional psychologist needs to evaluate all data before making a conclusion.”

Paraphrase:

The author makes a comparison between a detective and a psychologist and suggests that professionals in the field of psychology should evaluate all information before making a conclusion.

Original:

“Flu symptoms include nasal congestion and fever.”

Paraphrase:

High temperature and a stuffy nose are signs of flu.

Original:

“Pouring hydroxide peroxide on a cutting board made of wood will kill salmonella and other bacteria.”

Paraphrase:

Bacteria on a cutting wood, including salmonella, can be eradicated by pouring hydroxide peroxide on it.

Original:

“Every year, thousands of tourists visit Niagara Falls.”

Paraphrase:

Niagara Falls is visited by thousands of people every year.

Original:

“Willy Wonka was famous for his delicious candy. Children and adults loved to eat it.”

Paraphrase:

Willy Wonka was known throughout the world because people enjoyed eating the tasty candy he made.

Original:

“The goal of this “Twinning” project is to further strengthen the RNA community in Brno and the Czech Republic. It links CEITEC MU with four international leading counterparts from Germany and the UK. Scientists from all participating institutes will have the chance to collaborate in joint research, share methodological approaches, discuss important research questions, participate in staff exchanges and expert visits, attend conferences, and jointly participate in highly specialised trainings that support excellence in science.”

Paraphrase:

Through the “Twinning” project, CEITEC MU aims to develop closer links and collaboration among the RNA community in Brno and the Czech Republic. Due to this project, CEITEC will also be connected with four important research centres from Germany and the UK. The international collaboration will enable all participating research teams to, among others, work on joint projects, share their methodologies and to debate crucial research questions. In other words, the project will make the exchange of scientific ideas much easier.

**How to paraphrase?**

1 Read the passage you want to paraphrase several times to fully understand it

2 Note down key words / key concepts and try to elaborate on them

3 Connect ideas from various places in the text – similar ideas which logically go together might not be just at one place in the text.

4 When you understand the text and its key words, try to write your paraphrase without looking at the original text.

**Paraphrasing Tips**

1 Use synonyms (use another word with the same meaning as the word in the original)

2 Start your first sentence at a different point from that of the original source

3 Change the sentence structure (eg from active to passive)

4 Break the information into separate sentences

Sources

“How to paraphrase sources.” *Scribber.com*

<https://www.scribbr.com/citing-sources/how-to-paraphrase/>