

ELI 182

Fall 2018

Summary/Response

Final draft due Wednesday, 12/12/2018 by 11:59 pm (uploaded to Blackboard)

Objectives:

- Identify main ideas and the details, which support or develop those ideas
- Identify types of details such as facts, statistics, examples, and expert opinions
- Summarize & paraphrase a reading passage in writing

1. Read "**A Pathway to Road Safety with No Signposts**" until you understand it fully. You may need to read it several times, and you may want to take notes and/or annotate the article and look up some words (important words to understand the article) that you don't know from the reading.
2. Once you understand Unit 5 Reading 2, decide what the main idea is (use the title, the first and last paragraphs to help). Write down the main idea. To find the main idea, ask yourself what one topic the reading is about. Then ask what point the writer is trying to make about the topic.
3. Use the "Ten Percent Summary Sheet" to help find the other central ideas. Be sure to use your own words on the sheet, then you will not have to change them when you write your summary. **DO NOT COPY** sentences from the article. **DO NOT QUOTE** in the summary for this assignment.
4. Check your summary against the original article and make sure you have not changed the meaning, but have changed sentences structures.
5. Target your summary for approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ the length **of the original**. 1/2 page-3/4 of a page summary. Double-spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 point font, **NEW TIMES ROMAN** [*no less than 100 words, no more than 250 words*]

Remember to choose an original title and to center it at the top of the first page.

Writing a good summary/response

- Make an appointment to see a consultant in the Writing Center
- Ask questions
- Don't copy/paste or plagiarize
- See your instructor
- Don't wait until the last minute to work on the assignment!

The features of a summary

- Start your summary with a clear identification of the type of work, title, author, year, and main point in the present tense (#2 from the previous page).

Example: *In the article "Four Kinds of Reading," the author, Donald Hall, explains his opinion about different types of reading.*

- Check with your outline/sheet (10% Summary Sheet) and the original text to make sure you have covered the important points.
- Never put any of your own ideas, opinions, or interpretations into the summary. This means you have to be very careful of your word choice.
- Write using "summarizing language." ***Review the handouts from class.* Periodically remind your reader that this is a summary by using phrases such as *the article states, the author describes, etc.*
- Include a reference page for the article. Use APA format for this page. (We will discuss this later.)

The features of a response

- A response is a critique or evaluation of the author's essay composed of YOUR opinions of the article being summarized. It demonstrates critical thinking and effectively uses comprehension and reflection from you own ideas, knowledge, and experience.
- Consider the author's viewpoint, methods, and conclusions. Examine ideas that you agree or disagree with and identify the essay's strengths and weaknesses in reasoning and logic, quality of supporting examples, organization, and style.
- Expand on the main ideas of the reading by relating them to your own ideas and experiences.
- Use **subjective** language to support your argument. In this paragraph, you may use personal pronouns.
- A good response is persuasive. It should cite facts, examples, observations, and personal experience that either counters the argument or supports the article, depending on your position.

Write a ½ page - ¾ of page summary and a 1½ page response. It should be double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 point font, NEW TIMES ROMAN font.

(SEE RUBRIC FOR GRADING SCALE)

3 Common Phrases Used in Summary-Response Writing

► Vocabulary Presentation

Good academic writers use phrases appropriate to introducing and identifying ideas in summary-response writing.

*The article **provides** a thorough introduction to the issues of privacy.*

*The author **fails to address** more controversial concerns.*

3.1 Common Phrases in Summary-Response Writing

- a. You can use these common subject + verb combinations to introduce the main idea of a summary. They are listed in order of frequency:

The article + say, state, note, describe, mention, quote, report ...

The author + claim, explain, call, say, write, argue, cite, establish, start ...

The article is used much more frequently than *the author* in summary-response statements.

Note: Do not use *believe* or *think* in summary-response statements that begin with the words "The author ..."

- b. The common subject + verb combinations in (a) are usually used in the present but sometimes also appear in the simple past or present perfect.

(See Unit 14 on reporting verbs.)

***The article describes** the problem of privacy and computers.*

***The article mentions** ways that education can prevent problems with technology.*

***The author starts the article by saying that** technology is part of everyone's lives.*

***The author claims** that the experts he interviewed for this article were well-known.*

*NOT **The author thinks** that the experts he interviewed for this article were well-known.*

***The article quoted** many well-known sources.*

***The author has argued** that individuals are responsible for protecting their own privacy.*

3.1 Common Phrases in Summary-Response Writing (continued)

- c. Use these phrases to identify ideas by the author of the original text:

discuss

go on to say

further state / explain

also state

according to the author

The article discusses identity theft in detail.

The article goes on to say that the problem is being addressed.

The author further states that regulations may be necessary in the future.

The author also states that consumers need to become proactive on this issue.

According to the author, the government has an important role in this debate.

- d. Use these phrases to conclude the summary-response:

In conclusion,

In sum,

The author concludes

Summing up,

In conclusion, the author predicts that Internet privacy will become one of the most important issues of the next decade.

Summing up, the author calls for people to be cautious when giving their personal information online.

- e. Use these phrases in the response part of summary-response writing to indicate what the author omitted or did not consider:

fail to address / mention

not address / mention

Note: Phrases that use the first person, such as *In my opinion*, are rare in academic writing. They are more common in informal texts like magazines.

The author **fails to address** the idea that users are also to blame for identity theft.

The author **does / did not mention** that we are all responsible for protecting privacy.

I think that the author...

In my opinion, the author could have...

A Summary for Study Purposes

Study summaries are summaries you write on your own to help you study for a topic, for example, before an exam or before you write a report. Writing this kind of summary after reading an assignment or attending a lecture can help you review class materials and identify important points and information you need to learn.

Useful Phrases for Study Summaries

The chapter / article / interview / passage is about . . .	The main points are . . .
The study / research showed that . . .	The writer / speaker gives examples of . . .
The writer discusses . . .	The speaker argues that . . .

Common Phrases Used in Summary-Response Writing

- 1 Read Ingrid's summary-response paper about an article on safely using a public Wi-Fi network. Underline the phrases of summary-response writing. Then label each phrase.

A = introduces and identifies the ideas of the original text
B = indicates what the author omitted or did not consider
C = concludes the summary

A ⁽¹⁾ The article "Protecting Yourself in Public" provides valuable information on how to protect important personal information when using public Wi-Fi networks.

 ⁽²⁾ According to the author, Wi-Fi networks in libraries, coffee shops, and airports are convenient, but can be dangerous because others may have an easier time accessing sensitive information. ⁽³⁾ The author further explains that it is often the actions of the victim that lead the individual to become a victim. ⁽⁴⁾ The author goes on to show how people don't realize that when checking their e-mail, their password may be observed, making it possible for others to access the account. ⁽⁵⁾ The author concludes that using only secure computers for things such as online shopping and banking is the only way to protect oneself.

 ⁽⁶⁾ The author fails to address the fact that, for economic reasons, many people do not have access to a secure computer. ⁽⁷⁾ The author does not mention that, for some individuals, their work schedules are such that they have to do business in an airport. ⁽⁸⁾ Furthermore, the author fails to provide useful advice for those who are most likely to be harmed by such actions.