

Summarizing, Paraphrasing, & Introduction to Research

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Current research paper procedures:

- Decide on a topic
- Find resources
- Highlight important information
- Make an outline/ organize the information
- Start writing by trying to change words in the text

Issue

- Problem: This method fosters plagiarism.
- Solution: Avoid looking at the text while writing.

Summarizing:

- Easier than paraphrasing
- Helps students build trust in their own memories

Method:

- Why – rationale for summarizing
- When – after students know the text well
- Where – in class
- How – by memory
 - Put away the text
 - Each student tells one point
 - Points are written on the board.
 - Students check spelling and facts from the reading.
 - Students organize the information, and write a paragraph.

Paraphrasing

Rationale

- Research papers
- Study of complex concepts and definitions

The Task

- Understand the passage
- Understand words as used in context
- Find appropriate synonyms
- Change the syntax

Preparatory Lessons for Paraphrasing

Guessing meaning from context

Finding correct definitions in context

Finding synonyms using MS Word

Choosing the most appropriate synonyms from the online Longman Dictionary

<http://www.ldoceonline.com>

Class Activity:

Read and discuss the passage

Create a list of words

Find synonyms for important words

Copy necessary words that cannot be replaced

Copy names and facts

Write from the list, not the passage

Note: Summarizing can use this method after it has been taught and if needed

Intro to Research

Original goal - writing from text for

Seed ideas

Vocabulary

Texts – local newspapers and popular magazines

Manageable

Useful topics

The task – “newspaper” journals: students must

Choose an article

Give their opinion with reference to the content of the article

Include a quotation with an in-text citation

May incorporate a related example from personal experience

Full text citation at the end

Final project

Three journals have to be on the same topic

Make a list of facts and quotations with in-text citations

Write a five-paragraph essay from the list without looking at the articles

Add a Works Cited page at the end