Worksheet 2

Summarising and paraphrasing

1. Match the correct endings to make a definition of the 2 words

   A) To paraphrase means...

   B) To summarise means...

   - ...to express someone else's ideas in your own words.
   - ...to express only the most important points of someone else's words.

2. Why is it important to paraphrase & summarise in Task 3 – Reading into writing?

3. Look at the following extracts from reading texts. Match them to paraphrased sentences which have the same meaning.

   1. Keeping your house cool or warm, driving cars and making things in factories all pollute the atmosphere.

   2. This affects the world weather and makes it difficult for animals to find food and fresh water.

   3. Humans take away animal’s homes and their food by farming, when they cut down trees for wood, and when they look for oil.

   a. When the weather changes, animals can’t find water & food easily.

   b. Pollution comes from cars, factories, heating & air conditioning.

   c. Cutting down trees and looking for oil damages animals’ homes & takes away their food.

4. Paraphrasing can be done in different ways. Find examples of the following in sentences a – c

   - Using a synonym or a word with a similar meaning
   - Using different grammar
   - Changing around the order of the sentence
5. Try to paraphrase the following sentences
   
a. There are now more mountain gorillas than there were in the year 2000.
   b. Before that, people still hunted and killed these big, beautiful mammals or destroyed forests where they live.
   c. Wildlife groups worked hard to help the gorillas and now nearly half of them live safely in a National park in Rwanda, Central Africa.
   d. Scientists and tourists can watch them and study them in the National park.

6. The 3 sentences in exercise 5 could be summarised as they all discuss the same idea. Look at the following examples and choose the best summary. Why is it the best one?
   
a. Wildlife groups stopped people killing & hunting gorillas as much as before. Now lots of them live in a national park where scientists and tourists can visit them.
   b. There are more gorillas than in 2000. Before people hunted and killed them and destroyed their forests. Groups helped the gorillas and half live in a National park where scientists can watch and study them.
   c. Gorillas are not in as much danger as before.

7. Decide if the following statements about writing good summaries are true or false.
   
a) A summary should be short
   b) You should use your own words to express the ideas in the text.
   c) You need to include all the information in the text.

8. Try to summarise the sentences in exercise 5, using your paraphrased sentences.
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Answers:

1. a = 1
   b = 2

2. It’s a requirement of the task/you need to demonstrate your lexical range/ you have a word limit

3. 1 = b
    2 = a
    3 = c

4/5. Teacher can check

6. A because it uses the writer’s own words, is not repetitive & is short

7. A = true
    B = true
    C = false (you select the most important points)

Teacher can check.