

Spring 2011
RHET—1105-003
How to Write Paraphrases
In-class assignment

For this in-class assignment you must paraphrase two sentences from your article. Double-space your final entries. When you paraphrase a sentence, a paragraph, or some other segment from reading, you translate the entire piece into your own words. A paraphrase differs from a summary in that it includes all of the information from the original; on the other hand, a summary contains only the most important information. Paraphrasing requires that you make substantial changes to the original; it is not enough to substitute only the words. You will receive 5% for this assignment.

Here is a more systematic paraphrasing procedure to follow taken from the textbook, *Writing in the Disciplines: A Reader for Writers*:

1. Locate the individual statements or major ideas units in the original.
2. Change the order of ideas, maintaining the logical connections among them.
3. Substitute synonyms for words in the original, making sure the language in the paraphrase is appropriate to your audience.
4. Combine and divide sentences as necessary.
5. Compare the paraphrase with the original to assure that the re-wording is sufficient and the meaning has been preserved.

Document the paraphrase.