

Paraphrasing to Summarize Expository Text

Author: Mary Elizabeth Escalante

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VITAL INFORMATION

Subject(s)	Information Literacy, Reading
Topic or Unit of Study	Summarizing and Synthesizing Information
Grade/Level	Grade 4, Grade 9
Objective	Students will make margin notes in their own words to summarize sections of text. This technique would not only help to monitor comprehension of the text, but also to re-word each section in a way that would be understood by the students which can later be synthesized into one, whole understanding of the text.
Summary	This lesson will be designed for one-on-one instruction. The student will work with a non-fiction book of their interest and will select one chapter to focus on for synthesizing. The teacher and student will read the chapter or section together. We will utilize skills such as taking notes of our new learnings and writing questions and our own understandings along the margins of the text. Students will also learn how to paraphrase each piece of the section into one short summary where all the new information they have learned is synthesized into the most important details that help them understand the entire text as a whole.

IMPLEMENTATION

Learning Context	
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Refer to previous lesson on <i>The Unhuggables</i> and have a short discussion on how we read a chapter that shared a lot of information about an animal and how we picked out the most important details out of that whole chapter. Like what we did in the previous lesson, we need to think about how we can share all of the new learnings we acquire with someone who does not know anything about the subject at all. It is hard to give that person every single detail of what we learned, but it is important to let them know what are the key pieces of information of that topic. This is also important for helping us better understand a dense amount of information we are reading about.2. Introduce the non-fiction book or other text to the student. Read a little bit of another chapter to model how you want the student to paraphrase the different sections of the chapter. The purpose of paraphrasing is to rewrite the paragraph or section in a way that we understand it. It is not necessary to paraphrase with complete sentences, but we need to write them down in a way that would be understood when we refer back to it. Also make use of the two-column worksheet where the students and teacher will list things that they have found interesting vs. what they think is important to the subject. Model this for 5 minutes.3. Have the student move on to the next chapter. They can choose to read out loud, silently, or take turns reading it out loud with the teacher. Students must paraphrase each paragraph or section so they can get into the practice of breaking down each pieces of the text then converting them into paraphrases that help them better understand the text. This can be done using sticky notes to stick on the pages of the book or written down on the pages if the pages are paper copies from the book. Work together for about 20 minutes.4. Once the chapter is completed, talk about what were the most important details they have learned about the topic. Refer back to the sticky notes. All new learnings will now be synthesized into a one paragraph summary. Remind students that only the most important information must be in this paragraph summary. Students have the option to handwrite or type their paragraphs. They can also use their sticky notes and two-column worksheets to help them writing their summaries. Allow at least 10 minutes for writing.
Differentiated Instruction	
Sample Student Products	
Collaboration	
Time Allotment	1 class periods. 40 Mins. per class.
Author's Comments & Reflections	This lesson can also be adapted for narrative texts or fiction materials.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Instructional Materials	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Materials and resources: Nonfiction Books, Newspaper/Magazine articles, misc. nonfiction reading materials Sticky Notes Two-Column worksheet - What's Important vs. What's Interesting
Attachments:	
	1. impt inter.pdf

STANDARDS & ASSESSMENT

Standards	
Assessment/Rubrics	