



IELTS WRITING LESSON 5-09-2018

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Lesson Objective: Students shall be able to summarize a text.

Evaluation Criteria: Students can demonstrate basic proficiency in the following categories: Punctuation, grammar and Coherency.

Section One How to Summarize

STEPS

1

Read the text
(2 minutes)

2

a) Highlight keywords or phrases
b) write down keywords
(ignore details)
(2 minutes)

3

Construct a sentence using the key words/phrases
(You may have to re-arrange some words.)
(7 minutes)



Key words include:

- Nouns (things)
- Verbs (actions)
- Adjectives (descriptions)

1. ASK:

Who did what?

What happened?

To find the central meaning of the text.

Other questions: **Where, when how & why**

2. Use paraphrasing when possible

3. Do not:

- ✗ Do not include your own ideas.
- ✗ Do not steal whole phrases (borrowing words is okay)
- ✗ Do not refer to the passage "the text says..."
- ✗ Do not use grammar you are not comfortable with.
- ✗ Do not use vocabulary you are not comfortable with.
- ✗ Don't include too many details.

Paragraph Example:

**STEP 1: READ**

Thirty healthy adults perform a gambling task on two separate occasions, once after receiving a drug called L-DOPA and once after receiving a placebo. The test required subjects to choose between safe and risky options that led to monetary gains and losses. Sometimes, the subjects could choose between a small reward or a gamble where there were equal chances of winning a larger reward or getting nothing. Other times, subject could accept a small loss or choose a gamble where there where equal chances of losing a large amount or losing nothing. During the testing, subjects were repeatedly asked "how happy are you at this moment?"

The researchers found that:

- Subjects took more risks to try to get bigger rewards after receiving L-DOPA but not placebo.
- After receiving L-DOPA, subjects chose more risky options regardless of how much larger the potential reward was compared to the safe alternative.
- Subjects were happier after winning a small reward while on L-DOPA than they were winning the same reward while on a placebo. A placebo, happiness was higher after large rewards than after small rewards, but on L-DOPA subjects were as happy about small rewards as they were about large rewards.

STEP 2:**a) HIGHLIGHT KEYWORDS OR PHRASES**

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b) WRITE THEM DOWN

- thirty adults
- gambling
- a drug called L-DOPA
- a placebo
- monetary gains and loses
- subjects were repeatedly asked, "how happy are you at this moment?"
- bigger rewards after receiving L-DOPA
- choose more risky options (while on L-DOPA)
- happier after winning a small reward while on L-DOPA



What is the simplest way to paraphrase this sentence?

- subjects were repeatedly asked, "how happy are you at this moment?"

STEP 3: TRANSFORM THE KEYWORDS INTO A COHERENT SENTENCE

What's the problem with this sentence?

Thirty adults participated in a gambling experiment where one group took L-DOPA and another group took a placebo, the results showed that the participants who took L-DOPA took more risks and experienced more pleasure.

34 words.

The right way (Final Result):

Thirty adults participated in a gambling experiment, which showed that those who took L-DOPA took more risks and experienced more pleasure compared with those who only took a placebo.

29 words.

Section Two

Summarize Yourself

1. Great at creating, even greater at destroying.

Creating something takes time, you've got to design things that work and then build them properly and make sure it's all correct. To destroy stuff, you can lob a rock at it. Destruction is easy. Even a fish could do it.



Ironically, mass destruction needs some creation. We created mining drills, big saws and things that light fires, swords and scythes, big cannons, nuclear bombs and wrecking balls; all to get rid of stuff. We also use fossil fuels to make materials/power things but at the same time we are destroying our environment.

Nevertheless, we would have never reached the point that we are currently at if we hadn't been creative with positive things and we wouldn't have become a successful species.

So we could say "both". Destructive as in we are destroying forests and other resources faster than we are replacing them, speeding up global warming, as well as being one of the main reasons for the mass extinction currently taking place. "We create only to destroy, whether we mean to or not." They say. We're equally adept at both. We create to destroy and vice versa in an endless cycle because such is human nature.

2. What is the best way to explore human nature: psychology, philosophy, or biology?

Philosophy is very abstract and provides a good way of learning to think more clearly about a wide range of issues, and its methods of analyzing arguments can be useful in a variety of situations in other areas of life. It's done primarily through reflection and does not tend to rely on experiment. It focuses more on how we fit into the grand scheme of the world more than how we interact with each other.

Biology studies the body, what is made and how it works - (among other things) - but, our body is temporary and it fades with time; at some point all you're left with is your mind; and even that goes away with time and when your mind gets damaged, your behavior and everything that define who you are, disappears.





Biology is scientific; it teaches us that our body is not always equal to somebody else's, since we all have something different. It could be our blood, our skin, our hair, our genes, our hormones, the chemical present in different parts of our body, etc. However, the human brain seems to be the only organ similar to everyone else's. However, Biology can't explain a lot of things like gambling.

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior. It is a multifaceted discipline and includes many sub-fields of study such as human development, sports, health, clinical, social behavior and cognitive processes.

3. Is human nature constant or is it molded by culture? Can human nature be completely changed by culture or society?

Years ago, a teacher asked me whether a man's reaction to women is learned, or is inborn, I said I didn't know, and the teacher said "it's inborn". I didn't know that. So I went to some primitive island, like 'Tuamotu,' that's about 300 miles east of Tahiti. I brought mirrors and beads which I was going to give to the natives to say I come as a friend. But the natives already opened my suitcase--they were in my hut--they were giving out my mirrors and beads to one another with a great big grin on their face. And I said, 'what's going on here? What are you doing with my mirrors and beads?' they said, 'you have too many!' and they were giving them out. I didn't understand that.

Three days later, when the old folks pulled a net full of fish, they threw fish to anyone standing there. They didn't say, 'you owe me five bucks, you owe me ten bucks.' they just gave it to them, and I understood: they shared what they had.

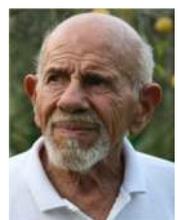
But the thing that surprised me most was that none of them wore any clothing - neither the adults nor the children - and they were all swimming nude. The boys and girls were swimming nude when they were little tots! And I never saw a male staring at a female body. Can you understand that?

If you're swimming nude ever since you can remember and nobody wears clothing, you don't stare at a female body. You understand that? There were no peeping toms on the island. Nobody had a picture of a nude woman in his hut because it's typical to see the nude woman, and there were no fetishes.

In America, England, France or Germany, men reach for the female breasts. In the islands, they saw the whole female, from the top of the head down. They don't reach for the breasts, the legs, or any part of the anatomy. Can you understand what I'm saying? Okay. So your essential behavior is learned, even in this culture, it isn't natural.

Another example is when sometimes a man wants a son, but his wife doesn't produce a boy, she produces a girl. So he takes her hunting, climbing, shooting his gun, and she thinks like a male. She's not born that way. He made her that way.

If you were brought up under those same circumstances, you'd behave just like all of these people. It all depends on the environment and the circumstances. There is no such thing as human nature.



~ Jacques Fresco | American Futurist.