

Summarizing, Paraphrasing, and Citing Sources

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

A PARAPHRASE rewrites a source in YOUR OWN WORDS while keeping the meaning. PLAGIARISM copies words without credit. A DISTORTION changes the meaning. A good paraphrase is faithful to the source AND clearly the writer's own sentence - and the source is still cited.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Source excerpts (treat each as the original text)

SOURCE 1 (from a kids' science magazine, 2024): The giant Pacific octopus has three hearts. Two pump blood through the gills, while the third pumps blood through the rest of the body. The third heart actually stops beating whenever the octopus swims, which is one reason these animals prefer to crawl along the seafloor.

SOURCE 2 (from a national parks brochure, 2023): Yellowstone sits on top of one of the largest active volcanic systems on Earth. The heat from this system feeds more than 10,000 hot springs, geysers, and mud pots - more than anywhere else on the planet.

SOURCE 3 (from a children's history book, 2022): For centuries, mapmakers in Europe drew the world without including most of the Pacific Ocean. They simply did not have reliable information about the lands and waters beyond the routes their ships had sailed.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the source excerpts below to answer the items.

- Which is the BEST PARAPHRASE of SOURCE 1?
 - The giant Pacific octopus has three hearts. Two pump blood through the gills, while the third pumps blood through the rest of the body.
 - The giant Pacific octopus is super weird because it has, like, three hearts and stuff.
 - Octopuses have three hearts.
 - The giant Pacific octopus has three hearts: two for the gills and one for the rest of the body. Because that body heart pauses while the octopus swims, the animal usually crawls instead.



2. Which option is PLAGIARISM of SOURCE 2?
- A. Yellowstone sits on top of one of the largest active volcanic systems on Earth. The heat from this system feeds more than 10,000 hot springs, geysers, and mud pots - more than anywhere else on the planet.
 - B. Yellowstone has more hot springs, geysers, and mud pots than anywhere else on Earth - over 10,000 in all - because it sits above a giant volcanic system.
 - C. Yellowstone is famous for its geysers.
 - D. A massive underground volcano feeds the geysers and hot springs that make Yellowstone unique.
3. Which option DISTORTS the meaning of SOURCE 3?
- A. For hundreds of years, European mapmakers left out most of the Pacific Ocean because they didn't yet have reliable information about it.
 - B. European mapmakers did not include most of the Pacific Ocean for centuries because they lacked accurate information about those lands and waters.
 - C. European mapmakers refused to draw the Pacific Ocean because they did not believe it existed.
 - D. Old European maps were often missing huge parts of the Pacific because the mapmakers' ships had not sailed there.
4. A student paraphrases SOURCE 1 like this: *The giant Pacific octopus has three hearts*. What is the MAIN PROBLEM?
- A. It is plagiarism (copied word for word).
 - B. It is over-condensed - it drops the key explanation about the gills, the swimming heart, and crawling.
 - C. It distorts the meaning.
 - D. It is too long for a paraphrase.
5. Which option is a STRONG paraphrase of SOURCE 2?
- A. Yellowstone sits on top of one of the largest active volcanic systems on Earth.
 - B. Yellowstone has lots and lots of geysers, like more than anywhere, basically.
 - C. Yellowstone has so many geysers that you basically can't even count them all.
 - D. Heat rising from a huge underground volcano powers more than 10,000 geysers, hot springs, and mud pots in Yellowstone - the most of any place in the world.
6. Which is the BEST CITATION format for using SOURCE 1 in a Grade 5 report?
- A. (I read it somewhere)
 - B. (That's just true.)
 - C. (Three Hearts of the Octopus, Kids' Science Magazine, 2024)
 - D. Just use the words - citation isn't needed if it's a fact.



7. A writer takes the IDEA from SOURCE 3 but writes it entirely in her own words. Does she still need to cite the source?

- A. Yes, because the IDEA still came from someone else's work.
- B. No, because she changed the words.
- C. No, because Grade 5 students don't have to cite anything.
- D. Yes, but only if the source is a book.

8. Which combination BEST describes the difference between a SUMMARY and a PARAPHRASE?

- A. A summary changes the meaning; a paraphrase does not.
- B. A summary is much SHORTER than the source and gives only the main idea; a paraphrase is about the SAME LENGTH and keeps all the key information.
- C. A summary copies the source; a paraphrase rewrites it.
- D. A summary uses fancy words; a paraphrase uses simple words.

9. Write a one-sentence PARAPHRASE of SOURCE 3 in your own words.

10. Write a one-sentence SUMMARY of SOURCE 2. Then write a short citation for it after your summary, like: (*Source title, year*).



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 A B C D
- 9
- 10

Explanations


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| 1. D | D restates the full meaning in NEW WORDS, keeping the key facts (three hearts, two for gills, one for body, body heart pauses, animal crawls). A copies the source word-for-word (plagiarism). B is in the writer's words but loses the explanation. C drops too much information (over-condensed). |
| 2. A | A is the SOURCE COPIED VERBATIM with no credit - that's plagiarism. B and D are paraphrases in the writer's own words. C is over-condensed but is in the writer's own words. |
| 3. C | C changes the meaning. The source says mapmakers LACKED INFORMATION; this option claims they REFUSED because they DIDN'T BELIEVE it existed - that's a distortion. A, B, and D all preserve the original meaning. |
| 4. B | B names the real issue: a faithful paraphrase keeps the KEY meaning. Dropping the explanation reduces the source to one fact and loses the reason it is interesting. A is wrong: the source has more than one sentence. C is wrong: nothing is changed in meaning. D is the opposite of true. |
| 5. D | D restates the full meaning in NEW WORDS while keeping the key facts (heat from volcano, 10,000+ features, most in the world). A is partial copying. B is informal and vague. C drops the actual numbers and reason. |
| 6. C | C names the SOURCE TITLE and the YEAR - exactly what a Grade 5 citation needs. A and B don't tell the reader where the information came from. D is false: even facts need citation when they come from a source. |
| 7. A | Even when you fully paraphrase, the IDEA is still the source's, so it must be cited. B is the most common student misconception - paraphrasing does NOT remove the citation duty. C is false. D is false - citation rules apply to all sources. |
| 8. B | B states the real difference: a SUMMARY is shorter (main idea only); a PARAPHRASE is about the same length but in new words, keeping key information. A confuses both with distortion. C confuses summary with plagiarism. D is irrelevant. |
| 9. | Answer: Examples: (1) For hundreds of years, European mapmakers left most of the Pacific Ocean off their maps because they had no reliable information about it. (2) Because European ships had not yet explored most of the Pacific, mapmakers in Europe simply left those lands and waters off their maps for centuries. Accept any single sentence that (a) keeps the meaning of Source 3 (mapmakers left out most of the Pacific because they LACKED INFORMATION), and (b) uses substantially different wording than the source. NOT acceptable: copying the source phrase by phrase, distorting the reason (e.g., didn't believe it existed), or dropping the cause. |



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| 10. | <p>Answer: Examples: (1) Yellowstone has more geysers and hot springs than any place on Earth because it sits above a huge active volcano (Yellowstone parks brochure, 2023). (2) Yellowstone's giant underground volcano powers thousands of hot springs and geysers (Yellowstone parks brochure, 2023). Accept any answer that (a) gives a SHORT one-sentence summary capturing the MAIN idea of Source 2 and (b) ends with a citation that names the source and year. NOT acceptable: copying the source sentence, leaving off the citation, or summarizing a different source.</p> |
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