writing and Communication centre

Integrating Sources: Paraphrase and Summary Techniques

Paraphrasing Strategies[1]	Steps for Paraphrasing[1]
1. **Use synonyms** • Use a thesaurus in conjunction with a dictionary • Not all synonyms are equal • Use words you know • Do not use synonyms for specialist terms (e.g., insulin, hippocampus, synaptic cleft)	1. **Read** • Read passage a number of times to gain full understanding/meaning of text.
2. **Use different parts of speech** • Nouns, verbs, adjectives • May require change of sentence structure	2. **Write** • Without looking at text, try to put main ideas into your own words as if telling a friend about what you just read. • Circle specialized words that cannot be changed. • Underline keywords that can be changed & find alternatives.
3. **Change sentence structures** • Order of words • Shorten sentences (# of clauses) • Types of clauses in one sentence • Linking words	2. **Check** • Check accuracy of ideas/meanings.
4. **Simplify abstract ideas** • Make theoretical/abstract concepts more concrete • Don't assume the reader is an expert • Choose simple, clear vocabulary	3. **Compare** • Compare paraphrase to original text & pay attention to any quotations that need to be placed.
4. **Change from active to passive and vice versa** • Passive = to be + past participle • Active= subject + verb • e.g., Plant seeds <u>are dispersed by</u> wind. (P)→Wind <u>disperses</u> plant seeds. (A)	4.**Cite** • Cite according to appropriate style manual
5. **Use variety of citation techniques** • Author prominent: *Smith[1] stated…* • Information prominent: *A central feature underlying patient-centredness is the biomedical paradigm.* • Weak author prominent: *Finding treatments for breast cancer is a major goal for scientists.* [1]	

Exercise: Using the measures of appropriation and accuracy, evaluate the following paraphrase example by identifying the strengths/weaknesses of each and discussing strategies to improve each example

Original passage: "If a drug does not expose an athlete to excessive risk, we should allow it even if it enhances performance" (Savulescu et al., 2004, p. 670).

Paraphrase	Measurement	Strengths and Weakness
If a medication does not put an athlete in extreme danger, we should permit the medication even if it increases performance (Savulescu et al., 2004).	Appropriation: 1 2 3 4 5 Verbatim Own words Accuracy: 1 2 3 4 5 Inaccurate Accurate	
An athlete should be allowed to use drugs that may enhance performance especially when they do not expose them to excessive injury risk (Savulescu et al., 2004).	Appropriation: 1 2 3 4 5 Verbatim Own words Accuracy: 1 2 3 4 5 Inaccurate Accurate	
Athletes should be allowed to take drugs that may enhance performance despite potential risks to their health and well-being (Savulescu et al., 2004).	Appropriation: 1 2 3 4 5 Verbatim Own words Accuracy: 1 2 3 4 5 Inaccurate Accurate	
Athletes should be allowed to take a medication that may enhance their capabilities if it is not overly dangerous (Savulescu et al., 2004).	Appropriation: 1 2 3 4 5 Verbatim Own words Accuracy: 1 2 3 4 5 Inaccurate Accurate	

(Source: Savulescu, J., Foddy, B., & Clayton, M. (2004). Why we should allow performance enhancing drugs in sport. *British Journal of Sports Medicine, 38*, 666-670. doi: 10.1136/bjsm.2004.005249)