GAEN N201 - Reading   **PARAPHRASING**

Name: _____   **Section:** _____

Paraphrasing is restating an original piece of written text in your own words.

WHY DO YOU PARAPHRASE?
In reading, paraphrasing helps students:
- to understand and remember the text better while reading,
- to answer comprehension questions on reading texts without copying down the sentences from the text,
- to understand the logic behind True/False/Not Given questions,
- to do better in gap-filling activities.

IN PARAPHRASING:
➢ **The sentence structure or word order changes**

e.g.   When I was about 12, I became interested in aviation and began to read about planes.

→   At the age of 12, I developed an interest in aviation and started reading about planes.

➢ **Longer sentences turn into shorter ones**

e.g.   The surprising thing about Evelyn is that she is a pilot.

→   Evelyn is a pilot. This is surprising.

➢ **The key idea is in a shorter text**

e.g.   When I am on holiday, I like to meet new people and their cultures, and you can learn a lot from local people, too.

→   On holiday, I like to learn more about that country's culture.

➢ **Two sentences join in one sentence**

e.g.   I became interested in planes and leant to fly them. That was 15 years ago.

→   15 years ago, I became interested in planes and learnt to fly them.

➢ **Sentences do not repeat the same words; they have synonyms, antonyms, different word forms and linkers**

e.g.   I started learning how to fly a plane when I was about 18. It was at this time I started to lose my hearing.

→   I started to learn how to fly at the age of 18, but at the same time, I suffered hearing loss.

WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON WAYS OF PARAPHRASING?

There are a variety of techniques you can use to paraphrase a writer's ideas:
I. Changing word order
II. Using synonyms
III. Using negatives or opposite expressions
IV. Combining or dividing sentences
V. Using different grammatical structures
VI. Nominalization

I- CHANGING WORD ORDER
e.g. **Because / As / Since** I studied hard for Test 1, I got a very good grade.
→   I got a very good grade **because / as / since** I studied hard for Test 1.

e.g. **In order to / So as to / To** pass GAEN N201, I have to study very hard.
→   I have to study very hard **in order to / so as to / to** pass GAEN N201.

e.g. 1. If you are going to Fujairah in December, be sure to take warm clothes.
→   _____.

II- USING SYNONYMS
e.g. Planes can be **divided** into three **categories**.
→   Planes can be **grouped** into three **types**.

e.g. 2. The plane to London leaves at eight every morning.
→   The plane to London _____ at eight every morning.

III- USING NEGATIVES OR OPPOSITE EXPRESSIONS
e.g. Ali **was disappointed** because the lecture **wasn't very good**.
→   Ali **wasn't satisfied** because the lecture was **bad**.

e.g. 3. Last year, 80% of the students passed the final exam.
→   Last year, _____ of the students _____ the final exam.

IV- COMBINING OR DIVIDING SENTENCES

e.g. Al Ain is a wonderful city. **It** has beautiful scenery and an interesting history.
→   Al Ain, **which** has beautiful scenery and an interesting history, is a wonderful city.

e.g. Hamad did not get injured when he had an accident, **which** is very fortunate.
→   Hamad did not get injured when he had an accident. **This** is very fortunate.

e.g. 4. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum is the father of Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. He is the Prime Minister and Vice President of the UAE.
→   _____.

V- USING DIFFERENT GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURES

e.g. The cadet **flew** the plane.

→ The plane **was flown** by the cadet.

e.g. 5. Acid rain is caused by power plants that burn coal to produce electricity.

→   Power plants that burn coal to produce electricity _____.

e.g. 6. The people in the Middle East speak various languages.

→   Various languages _____.

VI- NOMINALIZATION

Nominalization is using nouns, noun phrases and noun clauses to replace verb/adjective forms and sentences. Nominalization is useful in academic writing, especially when paraphrasing. It is also used in writing topic sentences. Moreover, nominalization is used with certain linking words like **in spite of**, **despite**, **because of**, **due to**, **except for**, **apart from**, **as well as**, **in addition to**, **such as, like** and **namely** when giving examples, joining ideas or paraphrasing.

e.g. I couldn't participate in the graduation ceremony **because my leg was injured**.

→ I couldn't participate in the graduation ceremony **because of my injured leg**.

e.g. **Although he knew** Arabic, he wasn't chosen to be ambassador to the UAE.

→ **In spite of / Despite his knowledge of** Arabic, he wasn't chosen to be ambassador to the UAE.

e.g. He's very well qualified for the job, **except that he lacks patience**.

→ He's very well qualified for the job, **except for / apart from his lack of patience**.

e.g. 7. The old man had a heart attack while he was flying to New York.

→   The old man had a heart attack during the _____ to New York.

e.g. 8. Ten people were injured when the two buses collided.

→   Ten people were injured during the _____ of the two buses.