

# Guide: Paraphrasing Portions for Specific Feedback

Choosing to express an expert's ideas as direct quotes or paraphrases is a vital academic writing skill.

- Paraphrasing is harder, but it is often a more effective way to integrate a source.
- Through this task, you will get specific feedback on one paraphrase at a time.
- Integrating paraphrases into your paragraphs is the focus of a later skill development task.

## Paraphrasing Process

1. Read & be sure you understand it & it suits your purpose (support, example, counter-argument)
2. Break sentence into meaningful chunks/ thought groups (// to ensure complete ideas)
3. Identify the main point(s)
4. Cross out unnecessary details (the details that distract from the main point you are making)
5. Identify key words which you can also use (but not 4+ in the same order)
6. Reword the main point - using various strategies I have shown you (7 x 7 method)
7. Recognize the author (idea prominent or author prominent)

## Submission Process

1. Choose a portion of an article that you plan to use in your research paper.
2. Be sure your name is on the e-file page
3. From your reference list document, copy and paste the reference list entry.
4. Next, type or copy & paste the ORIGINAL portion you are paraphrasing.  
Single spacing is fine. Don't forget to make note of the page number (if applicable).
5. Follow the paraphrase process and write the paraphrase. Please, double space it.
6. Save the e-file and submit your document as per instructions (hard copy, Google Docs, etc.).

An example for an essay on **Income Inequality in Kazakhstan:**

Ama Zing (your name)

Lillis, Joanna. 2013. "Kazakhstan: Widening Social Divide Fuels Protest Mood."  
EurasigNet.org. February 19. <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/66575>

**Original:** "In the official narrative of Kazakhstan's post-Soviet history, President Nursultan Nazarbayev is lauded for fostering widespread prosperity while maintaining inter-ethnic harmony. Lately, though, the official paeans to Nazarbayev's virtues haven't been able to drown out voices of doubt about Kazakhstan's development path, voices that reflect an ever-widening rich-poor gap and urban-rural divide."

**Process notes:** (This is just an example for you. You need not include this in your submission.)

- Main points - underlined. Details - ~~crossed-out~~. // - thought groups
- Note: the original is 52 words and the paraphrase is 34. Sometimes the paraphrase is the same length. Paraphrase length depends on the original source and how/why you are using the ideas.

In the official ~~narrative of Kazakhstan's post-Soviet history~~, // -President Nursultan Nazarbayev is lauded for fostering widespread prosperity while maintaining inter-ethnic harmony. // Lately, // ~~though, the official paeans to Nazarbayev's virtues~~ // haven't been able to drown out voices of doubt // about Kazakhstan's development path, // voices that reflect an ever-widening rich-poor gap and urban-rural divide.

### Paraphrase: Double Spaced

President Nazarbayev is officially praised for the inter-ethnic peace and general wealth in Kazakhstan. However, the gap between the rich-poor and the urban-rural population is widening, so doubts about Kazakhstan's future are now being expressed (Lillas 2013).

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

/ .5	<b>Followed Instructions ( .25 each)</b> ____ submitted appropriately ____ submitted on time
/ 1.5	<b>Completion (.5 each)</b> ____ reference list entry ____ original ____ paraphrase (double spaced)
/ 6	<b>Paraphrase Skills (1 point each)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Main point(s) included (not details)</li><li>• Same Meaning</li><li>• Topic specific/ Key words used well</li><li>• Paraphrase strategy done well (synonyms, idea order, WF, etc.)</li><li>• Proper citation (author prominent or idea prominent, date and page)</li><li>• Overall accuracy</li></ul>
Comments	

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Comments