

Paraphrasing

When you take notes on facts in a book or article, you **paraphrase** the article. When you paraphrase, choose the most important facts and restate them in your own words.

- Paraphrase only the main ideas, not unimportant details. Make sure you paraphrase the facts correctly.
- Use your own words, not the words and word order used by the author.
- If a phrase or sentence is especially interesting, write it in quotation marks.

Includes main ideas Omits important information Follows original wording too closely

Directions Read the paragraph and each paraphrase of the paragraph. Write the best description from the box for each paraphrase.

The Liberty Bell is a symbol of American freedom. It was made in England and sent to Philadelphia. It cracked on its first ring and was repaired. On July 8, 1776, the bell was rung in honor of adopting the Declaration of Independence. It was rung each July 8 for many years. Today you can see the Liberty Bell at Liberty Bell Pavilion in Philadelphia.

1. The Liberty Bell got cracked on its way from England to America, but Americans fixed it.

Omits important information

2. The Liberty Bell stands for freedom to Americans because it was rung in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was adopted. The Liberty Bell is still displayed in Philadelphia.

Includes main ideas

Directions Write a paraphrase of the following paragraph.

3. The Washington Monument reminds Americans of our history and our first President, George Washington. The monument is more than 555 feet high and is covered in white marble. It has been one of the most famous sights in Washington, D.C. since it was completed in 1884.

Possible answer:
The Washington Monument was finished in 1884 in honor of our first President. It is one of the most famous buildings in our capital.