Tips for Paraphrasing

A paraphrase is a synthesis of an author's idea into a statement. Rather than quote an entire passage, you can paraphrase the main points and key ideas. Paraphrases are challenging as they must restate the original content but with different words and sentence structure. Try the following 5-steps to paraphrasing:

1) **Step 1:** Read the original passage several times to ensure you understand it well.

2) **Step 2:** Close or cover up the original so that you cannot see it. From memory write what you thought was meaningful or important about the original.

3) **Step 3**: Check your paraphrase against the original.

4) **Step 4:** Change the structure or wording if to close or place quotation marks where necessary.

5) **Step 5:** Remember to cite the original source.

Example in APA 7th edition:

Original passage:

"Assessment feedback has an important role in improving learner's decision making, and ultimately improving their learning outcomes (Henderson et al, 2019, p. 1401)."

Paraphrase:

Henderson et al (2019) explain that the feedback given during assessments plays a crucial role in enhancing learners' ability to make informed decisions, leading to overall improvement in their academic achievements.

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