

### Skill 5 Summarizing the Points

To write the integrated essay, you have to understand the main points in both the lecture and the reading. You have to know the relationship of the lecture to the reading. You have to summarize the main points. Look at this essay on the topic of solar energy, and compare it with the example outline in Skill 4.

#### Example

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture, and explain how they cast doubt on the points made in the reading.

The reading presents solar energy as a good alternative energy source, but the lecturer points out that solar energy has several disadvantages.

Many people think of solar energy as a free way to generate electricity and heat water. The lecturer agrees that this is true after a solar energy system has been installed. She points out, however, that installing the system is not free. In fact, many people cannot afford it.

Another reason solar energy is popular is because it doesn't cause pollution. It is clean and quiet and does not ruin beautiful scenery. Nevertheless, many people think solar panels are ugly, according to the lecturer. Solar panels on a roof look better than solar panels in a yard. Still there are many people who might not want to install them on their roofs because they do not look nice.

People also believe that solar energy can be used everywhere, according to the reading passage, and this is an advantage for people in rural areas. The lecturer points out that this is not completely true. Although solar energy is useful in places that have a lot of sunshine, it is difficult to use in northern areas and rainy regions. The lecturer believes that solar energy is a good alternative energy source in some situations, but not in all.

These transition words will help you when you write your summaries.

#### Useful words and phrases

##### Challenge

although  
challenge  
conversely  
however  
nevertheless  
on the other hand

##### Support

also  
another  
as well  
both  
likewise  
in addition  
support

**Practice**

Read each question. Then write a 150–225 word essay summarizing your notes from Skill 4. Don't forget your introduction. Use a separate sheet of paper, or write on a computer.

1. **Topic:** Parental Involvement  
**Question:** Summarize the points made in the lecture and explain how they strengthen the points made in the reading.
  
2. **Topic:** Does Aromatherapy Work?  
**Question:** Summarize the points made in the lecture and explain how they challenge the points made in the reading.
  
3. **Topic:** Forest Fires  
**Question:** Summarize the points made in the lecture and explain how they support the points made in the reading.
  
4. **Topic:** Industrial Agriculture and Organic Farming  
**Question:** Summarize the points made in the lecture and explain how they answer the problems described in the reading.

**Skill 6 Citing and Paraphrasing**

For most responses on the Direct to TOEFL iBT™, you will use indirect quotes or paraphrase to refer to the author's or the lecturer's points. When you use the words of the author or lecturer, you should cite the author or speaker to let the reader know where the ideas originated.

A direct quote is the author's exact words; it uses quotation marks (" . . ."). An indirect quote uses a clause, often with *says that*. A paraphrase has the same meaning, but uses different grammatical structures and different vocabulary. Compare these examples.

Original (from the reading):

The costs of maintaining a solar energy system are very low.

Direct quote: The author states, "The costs of maintaining a solar energy system are very low."

Indirect quote: The author says that the costs of maintaining a solar energy system are very low.

Paraphrase: Solar energy maintenance costs are low.

**Tip**

Be careful not to simply copy text from the reading passage. Your score will be lowered if you copy.

**Tip**

When you refer to a reading passage, you can use *author* or *writer*. When you refer to a lecture, you can use words like *speaker*, *lecturer*, or *professor*. You can also use *man* or *woman* (depending on the speaker's gender).

These verbs are useful for citing.

**Useful words**

|              |           |         |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| assert       | describe  | report  |
| according to | explain   | state   |
| believe      | note      | say     |
| claim        | point out | suggest |
| confirm      | propose   | tell    |
| contend      | remark    | think   |
| deny         | remind    | warn    |

**Practice**

Rewrite the original statement as a direct quote, an indirect quote, and a paraphrase. Use as many different verbs as possible.

1. Original (from the reading): *Parents can inquire about what their children are doing in class.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Original (from the lecture): *Many homeowners simply don't have the financial ability to install solar panels.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Original (from the reading): *Aromatherapy has proven to be a popular form of treatment for both psychological and physical ailments.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Original (from the lecture): *The only effect shown was that lemon oil appears to have a positive effect on mood.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Original (from the reading): *Forest fires can have natural or human causes.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Original (from the lecture): *For these reasons, a modern approach to forest fire management has developed, that recommends fighting only those fires caused by human activity or that threaten places where people live.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original (from the reading): *Industrial agriculture approaches food production in much the same way a factory approaches the production of manufactured goods.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Original (from the lecture): *Crop rotation, in addition to maintaining soil health, also helps control pests by interrupting their breeding cycle.*

Direct quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Indirect quote: \_\_\_\_\_

Paraphrase: \_\_\_\_\_