

# Writing a recount

## Day 3



# Summary

A summary is a brief account of something, which includes the main points. When you wish to pick out the important parts of a text, it is essential to resist the temptation to write down everything that you remember.

**Using the main points below, can you guess which familiar fairy tale is being retold?**

- Going to visit Grandma.
- Cupcakes packed into a basket.
- Walk through the forest.
- Is someone watching me?
- Grandma is in bed.
- That's not Grandma!

# Summarising

Did you guess correctly? **Little Red Riding Hood**

**Now it is your turn to pick out the main points from the sentences below. You can only choose three words from each sentence.**

1. Sheep give us meat and wool.
2. Birds have wings and feathers.
3. Gorillas and chimpanzees are kinds of apes.
4. The thigh bone is called the femur.
5. Rainfall is measured with a rain gauge.

# Summarising

**Which words did you pick out in each sentence? Check with the answers below.**

1. **Sheep** give us **meat** and **wool**.
2. **Birds** have **wings** and **feathers**.
3. **Gorillas** and **chimpanzees** are kinds of **apes**.
4. The **thigh bone** is called the **femur**.
5. **Rainfall** is **measured** with a rain **gauge**.

# Summarising

**Read the paragraph below and pick out the main points.**

*Charlie usually wakes up at 6am on school days. As she is a creature of habit, she always opens the window to see what the weather is like. Then, she races to the bathroom, brushes her teeth and makes her way downstairs to eat her breakfast. She eats her cereal quickly and then drinks her fresh juice. Once she is finished, she runs back upstairs to get dressed. Sometimes it takes her a long time to style her hair. When she is satisfied, she picks up her packed lunch and walks to school.*



# Summarising

Did you choose the same main points that are highlighted below?

*Charlie usually wakes up at 6am on school days. As she is a creature of habit, she always opens the window to see what the weather is like. Then, she races to the bathroom, brushes her teeth and makes her way downstairs to eat her breakfast. She eats her cereal quickly and then drinks her fresh juice. Once she is finished, she runs back upstairs to get dressed. Sometimes it takes her a long time to style her hair. When she is satisfied, she picks up her packed lunch and walks to school.*

Now that you have highlighted the main points, you need to write them in your own words.



# Summarising

Once you have found the main points, they need to be put into your own words to make it different from the original version. Here is my example:

*Charlie likes routine so she does the same things from Monday to Friday. After waking up at six o'clock, she checks the weather before cleaning her teeth. She always has cereal and juice for breakfast. Then she gets dressed and does her hair. Finally, she collects her lunch and goes to school, on foot.*

**This summary still tells the reader what Charlie does but it is a much shorter version than the original text as it has no descriptive language in it.**



# Writing the final paragraph



**Now that you have written the introduction and main body of your recount, it is time for the final paragraph.**

**This needs to be a summary of the main points of the recount.**

**The writer's recommendation to others about the experience.**

**What you have learnt.**

# Writing the final paragraph



**Here is an example of what you could write about in your final paragraph:**

As the day came to a close, my sadness increased. Every day was exactly the same and although my boring job was really important, living and working alone was extremely lonely. By lighting the moon, I helped everyone else but nobody did anything for me! I hoped that there would be a chance to leave this place soon and live with my family again. My experience had taught me that I would not do this another time and hopefully neither would anyone else as no-one should be alone for that long.

**In my example, I have included:**

**A really short summary of the experience** - 'Every day was exactly the same and although my boring job was really important, living and working alone was extremely lonely. By lighting the moon, I helped everyone else but nobody did anything for me!'

**A recommendation about the experience** – 'I hoped that there would be a chance to leave this place soon and live with my family again.'

**Finally, what has been learnt** - 'My experience had taught me that I would not do this another time and hopefully neither would anyone else as no-one should be alone for that long.'

**It's your turn to write your final paragraph to complete your recount ...**