

# **A.B.M. College, Golmuri**

## **English Core**

### **I.Com.**

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## **Summarizing**

**(Write down the solved passages given below in the copy followed by the unsolved passages assigned to you as homework. No need of copying down anything else in the copy.)**

A summary is a synthesis of the key ideas of a piece of writing, restated in your own words – i.e., paraphrased. You may write a summary as a stand-alone assignment or as part of a longer paper. Whenever you summarize, you must be careful not to copy the exact wording of the original source.

### **Summary Writing Format**

- When writing a summary, remember that it should be in the form of a paragraph.
- A summary begins with an introductory sentence that states the text's title, author and main point of the text as you see it.
- A summary is written in your own words.
- A summary contains only the ideas of the original text. Do not insert any of your own opinions, interpretations, deductions or comments into a summary.
- Identify in order the significant sub-claims the author uses to defend the main point.
- Copy word-for-word three separate passages from the essay that you think support and/or defend the main point of the essay as you see it.

- Cite each passage by first signaling the work and the author, put “quotation marks” around the passage you chose, and put the number of the paragraph where the passages can be found immediately after the passage.
- Using source material from the essay is important. Why? Because defending claims with source material is what you will be asked to do when writing papers for your college professors.
- Write a last sentence that “wraps” up your summary; often a simple rephrasing of the main point.
- Do not write summaries directly from the article. Make it only from the notes you made. You’ve already worked hard to strip useful content from the article in note making. This will save your precious time while summarizing.
- Never jump the word-limit; always stick to a word-limit of 80-100 words for an article of around 450 words.

### **READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS GIVEN BELOW (SOLVED PASSAGE)**

It was bound in a rough, red cloth, now smoothened in places with the many caresses it had received over the years. Its name boldly etched in gold over its hard cover. Its spine still holding on firmly to the age old pages, much thumbled, dog-eared, yellowing pages. Its illustrations, lithographs by the author himself, and a frayed red ribbon placed between the pages I had read the last time. That is my favourite book. .

That book startled me off on a journey that inevitably took me to the book alleys that still make the three hundred year old city proud. The fact that my lane meandered through several by-lanes and reached the book alleys in less than fifteen minutes made my trips frequent and my pocket-money meager. The narrow lanes were lined with small shops with dusty shelves. Their bespectacled shop-owners—bibliophiles in their own right—were always eager to help me find treasures in all shapes and sizes, bound in cloth or leather, some new and some which had changed several hands; others which had comers folded, many in tatters, a few boasting of an autograph or a note written in attention of a loving reader. My prized possession in those days was a book called Sita that was illustrated with paintings by the illustrious Raja Ravi Verma.

Nothing gave me more pleasure than the feel of a cold spine against my palm, the weight of the pages, their slight reluctance to open spontaneously, the faint crick at the turn of each page, and the musty smell of the yellowing pages mixed with a slight whiff of the jet-black ink that filled my nostrils as I brought the book close to my face.

Thus enamoured by books of all shapes and sizes, colours and textures and thus pampered by the abundance of such gems in dusty attics and tiny shop windows, I stepped out of my city’s boundaries and stepped into different cities. As a resident in some, whilst a tourist in others. My experiences in each of those cities have been varied as have been my encounter with books.

In the beginning, I would wait to return from those cities and visit the old, familiar book alleys for my ration of books for the rest of the year. But soon I realised that the character of the alleys, the shops lining them and the books they sold had started to change. The old, dusty spines of ageless classics were fast being replaced by Last Minute Suggestions for Board Examinations, Questions & Answers Made Easy, cheap reprints of old classics, poor translations of world famous children's classics and photocopies of what were otherwise intellectual masterpieces. Makeshift shops had encroached upon the pavements of the narrow alleys and had started to threaten the original inhabitants themselves. Disappointment was inevitable, and it didn't take too long to set in. Like many others, I soon decided it was time to park my hopes elsewhere.

**Q1. Write a summary of the passage in your own words.**

Ans- The author speaks about a book bound in a rough, red cloth, now smothered in places with the many caresses received over years. It was the narrator's favourite book. This book took him to the old book alley. He was habitual of spending his pocket money on books. His prized possession was Sita by Raja Ravi Verma. The books were a source of fascination to the writer. His experience of the various cities has been varied as has been his encounter with books. Time has undergone a sea change, the classics have been replaced by last Minute for Board suggestions, Questions and Answers made easy type of books. The narrator found it disappointing and decided to satisfy his curiosity somewhere else.

**2. READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE CAREFULLY AND ANSWER THE ANSWER GIVEN BELOW: (UNSOLVED PASSAGE)**

How does television affect our lives? It can be very helpful to people who carefully choose the shows that they watch. Television can increase our knowledge of the outside world, there are high quality programme that helps us to understand many fields of study, science, medicine, the arts and so on. Moreover, television benefits very old people, who can't often leave the house as well as patients in hospitals. It also offers non native speakers the advantage of daily informal language practice. They can increase their vocabulary and practice listening. On the other hand, there are several serious disadvantages of television. Of course, it provides us with a pleasant way to relax and spend our free time, but in some countries, people watch the 'blood tube' for an average of six hours or more a day. Many children stare at a television screen for more hours each day than they do anything else including studying & sleeping. It's clear that the tube has a powerful influence on their lives and that its influence is often negative.

**Q1. Prepare an abstract or summary of the above passage in about 80 words. (03)**