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EWS-PTE-L3-01 | Guided learning and practice

Summarize Written Text: one controlled sentence

පළමුව ආදර්ශ බලන්න. ඉන්පසු ඔබම පුහුණු වී පිළිතුරු මඟපෙන්වීමෙන් වැරදි හඳුනාගන්න.

Summarize Written Text asks for a concise summary of a passage in the required form. In the current task, the response is one sentence within the stated word range. Identify the central message and its most important supporting relationship. A summary should not become a list of isolated quotations or a personal reaction. Read the entire passage before deciding what deserves space.

Combine ideas with a clear main clause and a limited number of accurate subordinate structures. A relative clause, because-clause or although-clause can preserve relationships without creating fragments. Check that the sentence remains one grammatical sentence rather than several sentences joined by commas. Avoid copying minor examples while omitting the argument they illustrate. During review, inspect content, sentence boundaries, word count and spelling. The EWS method is to reduce the passage to a main claim plus essential support before polishing vocabulary; the exact content must always come from the displayed text.

Worked examples

Model structure: The passage argues that urban trees improve local environments, although their benefits depend on careful maintenance.

A semicolon can connect closely related clauses, but it cannot repair unrelated or ungrammatical fragments.

Try it yourself: language control

1. Choose: The method is effective, (provided that / because of) staff receive training.
2. Correct: The speaker said that the policy always guarantee success.
3. Choose: The chart compares costs (whereas / across) four departments.
4. Choose: The group reached a (provisional / provisionally) agreement.
5. Combine in one sentence: The trial reduced waste. Its cost remains uncertain.

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Dropdown fill in the blanks: grammar plus meaning

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For a dropdown gap, read the whole sentence and enough surrounding text to understand the argument. Identify the grammatical role of the missing word, then compare meaning and collocation. A noun, verb, adjective and adverb are not interchangeable even when they share a root. Several options may fit the topic, but only one may fit the precise relationship in the sentence.

Work from both sides of the gap. A preposition may be controlled by a verb before it, while an article may signal a noun after it. If the paragraph contrasts a theory with evidence, choose a linking expression that preserves that contrast. Do not decide from a two-word fragment alone. After selecting an option, reread the complete sentence silently to check whether it is grammatical and sensible. Build a phrase bank from reviewed mistakes, such as depend on, evidence of and a significant increase, and use the phrases in new contexts.

Worked examples

Grammar cue: “an ___ solution” needs an adjective that can precede solution.

Collocation: “depend on reliable data” uses on, not from.

Comparing methods of cooling rooms

A college tested curtains and improved ventilation in several study rooms. Measurements were taken at the same afternoon times for two weeks. Rooms with curtains were cooler on average, but the researchers noted differences in size, window direction and occupancy. These differences limited the comparison. The trial did not test every season, and opening windows was not equally practical in noisy rooms. Staff nevertheless considered the results useful for choosing the next improvements to investigate. They recommended recording comfort as well as temperature, because a cooler room might still be difficult to use if noise increased.

Find evidence in the text

1. When were measurements taken?
2. What was the average pattern in rooms with curtains?
3. Name two factors that limited comparison.
4. Did the trial test every season?
5. Why measure comfort as well as temperature?

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Multiple choice, single answer: locate support

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Single-answer reading tasks require selecting the option best supported by a passage. Identify whether the question asks for the main idea, a detail, an inference or the writer's purpose. Different targets need different evidence. A detail option can be accurate but fail to summarise the whole text; a broad summary can be sensible yet omit the passage's central distinction.

Read the stem before judging the options, then locate relevant evidence. Compare each choice with the text rather than with your own knowledge. Watch for changed quantities, reversed cause and effect and absolute language that is stronger than the source. If two options appear plausible, name the exact difference between them and return to the controlling sentence. During review, explain why the closest distractor fails. This is more useful than only remembering the correct letter, because a later task will use different wording and a different set of alternatives.

Worked examples

Source: Some participants improved. Overclaim: Every participant improved.

Purpose distinction: describing a proposal differs from endorsing it.

Apply the skill

1. Summarize Written Text practice: Summarise the cooling-room passage in one sentence of 5-75 words.

2. Respond to a situation: Your presentation room is too noisy for a group activity. Ask the coordinator for a suitable alternative and explain the need.

3. After a helper reads the follow-up discussion once, give a spoken summary of up to two minutes, with ten seconds to prepare.

Use separate paper or a device recording for longer responses. Keep your attempt for feedback. This is EWS skill practice, not an official score.

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