Summary Writing Rubric
Writing Across the Curriculum

Although summary writing, a common type of academic writing, can be assigned as a specific assignment, it also is a good way to have a record of what you have read for a specific course to use for study and reflection. As in learning any writing skill, writing a good summary takes practice. To create a successful summary, all stages of the writing process must be used.

Key Instructional Elements:
- Has a main idea/concept
- Includes important facts and details
- Is in the writer’s own words
- Direct use of text from selections should have quotation marks
- Reflects underlying meaning
- Includes details in logical order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4=Above Grade Level (15-20 pts)</th>
<th>3=At Grade Level (10-14 pts)</th>
<th>2= Approaching Grade Level (5-9 pts)</th>
<th>1 = Below Grade Level (0-4 pts)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear Main Idea</td>
<td>Clear Main Idea</td>
<td>Main idea is unclear-not specifically stated in the writing.</td>
<td>The main idea is not present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All important details are included</td>
<td>Important details are included but some might be missing</td>
<td>Some critical information is missing</td>
<td>Contains only some details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Details are in logical order</td>
<td>Ideas are in logical order</td>
<td>Ideas are in random order and not logical</td>
<td>Ideas are not in a logical order</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates clear understanding of information in the text.</td>
<td>Demonstrates adequate understanding</td>
<td>Demonstrates basic understanding of information in text</td>
<td>Demonstrates little or no understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is characterized by paraphrasing of the main idea and significant details</td>
<td>Is characterized by paraphrasing of the main idea and significant details</td>
<td>Is characterized by the substantial copying of key phrases and minimal paraphrasing</td>
<td>Is characterized by the substantial copying of indiscriminately selected phrases or sentences.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>