Directions B2

Summary Writing

TASK 1:

- In a sentence, describe a film or a TikTok video you have recently watched to the person sitting next to you.
- Share your ideas with the rest of the class.

TASK 2:

WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION DID YOUR DESCRIPTION INCLUDE? *Put a tick (√) next to the option that applies for your description.*			
Specific details		General information	
The most important information about the video		All kinds of information about the video	
Information in your own words		Information exactly as it was presented in the video	
Information presented in a logical order		Information presented in the form of disconnected points	

TASK 3:

- Complete the list of good practices for effective summary writing.

DO's	**DON'T's**
	Start writing without reading the instructions because we know what a summary is
	Copy directly from the article into your summary
	State what you believe about the topic
	Look for examples and details in the text to include in your summary
	Write a list of the relevant points

TASK 4:

- Rewrite each sentence in the table below, using the relevant paraphrasing technique.

WORD-SWAPPING/ USING SYNONYMS	
EXAMPLE: The book was **difficult** to understand.	**(adjective)**
IN YOUR OWN WORDS:	**(synonym)**
CHANGING PARTS OF SPEECH (WORD FORMS)	
EXAMPLE: We had a long **discussion** about the project.	**(noun)**
IN YOUR OWN WORDS:	**(verb)**
SWITCHING FROM ACTIVE TO PASSIVE VOICE	
EXAMPLE: **The chef cooked** a delicious meal.	**(active)**
IN YOUR OWN WORDS:	**(passive)**
CHANGING THE SENTENCE STRUCTURE	
EXAMPLE: The film was too long. However, it was fascinating.	**(short sentences)**
IN YOUR OWN WORDS:	**(long sentence)**
USING NEGATIVE OPPOSITES (OR THE REVERSE)	
EXAMPLE: The test was difficult, but I was not discouraged.	**(adjective)**
IN YOUR OWN WORDS:	**(negative opposite)**

TASK 5:

Below, you will read a short paragraph about polar bears and two students' attempts to summarize it. Work with the person next to you to evaluate each summary. Write your comments in the space provided below.

You should consider which good and/or bad practices we have discussed can be found in each summary.

ORIGINAL TEXT:



The polar bear is the largest land carnivore in the world, found mainly in the Arctic Circle. Because of climate change, Arctic sea ice is melting at an alarming rate. Polar bears rely heavily on this ice to hunt seals, their primary food source. Without it, they must travel longer distances to find food, which leads to malnutrition and declining populations. Experts argue that greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced immediately to save the species from extinction.

(77 words)

SUMMARY 1:

Polar bears are the largest land carnivore in the world. They live in the Arctic Circle. The text says that climate change is bad because the sea ice is melting very fast. I think it is very sad that polar bears cannot hunt seals anymore. Because they have no food, they walk long distances. This makes them skinny. We need to stop greenhouse gases right now or they will go extinct. Also, polar bears are excellent swimmers.

(77 words)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

SUMMARY 2:

According to the text, climate change is causing Arctic sea ice to melt quickly. This severely threatens the polar bear population. Because bears rely on ice to catch their prey, its disappearance makes them travel further for food, causing their starvation. Therefore, we need to act fast to reduce worldwide greenhouse gas emissions and prevent the species from dying out.

(60 words)

_____
_____
_____
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_____

TASK 6:

Read the following article about space exploration. Write a summary about its benefits.

Your summary should be about 100 words long (and no more than 120 words long).
You should use your own words as far as possible.

Benefits of Space Exploration: Technologies That Power Everyday Life



Space exploration has contributed significantly to technological progress, bringing benefits that extend well beyond scientific discoveries and space missions.

Many people are surprised to learn that everyday items we rely on for work, school, health and safety have their origins in space programmes. The benefits of space exploration extend far beyond rockets and astronauts, as technologies originally developed for space missions have found numerous applications in our daily lives. Although space exploration can be costly, the technological advancements developed for space missions continue to offer lasting value to society, often in unexpected ways.

One of the most visible benefits of space exploration is global connectivity. Satellites enable high-speed communication in remote and hard-to-reach regions, such as deserts, oceans and rainforests, which were once disconnected from the rest of the world. Modern satellite networks are expanding access to space-based internet, providing reliable broadband connections worldwide.

Aviation has also benefited significantly from satellite technology. Satellites play an important role in improving aircraft tracking, supporting air traffic control and increasing fuel efficiency, while also making in-flight Wi-Fi possible. Pilots and air traffic controllers can exchange information more effectively, helping flights operate more safely and efficiently, particularly in areas with limited ground-based communication systems.

Among the major contributions of space exploration is the ability to monitor environmental changes. Such changes include climate change, deforestation, melting ice caps and rising sea levels. Satellites regularly capture images of polar regions, allowing scientists to measure how quickly glaciers are shrinking and how much ice is being lost over time. By collecting and comparing such data, researchers can identify long-term environmental trends and gain a clearer understanding of how human activities affect the Earth's natural systems.

Satellites also provide most of the data used in modern weather forecasting, making this one of the most life-saving applications of space technology. They monitor hurricanes, wildfires, floods and severe storms, allowing authorities to issue early warnings and respond to emergencies more quickly. For instance, satellite images can help meteorologists track the movement of a hurricane and predict which coastal areas are most likely to be affected, giving residents valuable time to prepare or evacuate.

Information collected from space can also be used to address some of the challenges associated with food production and the availability of natural resources. Satellite imagery allows experts to monitor reservoir levels, observe changes in soil conditions and track the distribution of water in different regions. When satellite images reveal that certain areas are experiencing unusually low water levels, authorities can identify potential shortages and take action before the situation becomes critical. This is particularly important in regions where several countries depend on the same water resources, as accurate information can help them manage supplies more effectively and plan for periods of limited rainfall.

It therefore follows that one of the most impactful applications of space exploration is precision agriculture, in which satellites guide farmers on when to irrigate, fertilise and harvest their crops, improving yields and reducing waste. By providing detailed information about soil conditions and crop health, this technology also enables farmers to identify areas that need attention and avoid using unnecessary amounts of water and fertilisers.

Overall, space exploration is much more than the study of outer space, as it contributes to improving people's lives on earth. Despite its high costs, its practical benefits demonstrate why continued investment in space research is valuable.

Adapted from: ***https://www.spacelaunchschedule.com/news/benefits-of-space-exploration/***