

# Summary Writing Practice

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## Instructions:

Read each passage carefully. Then, write a summary in 3–5 sentences, capturing the main idea and most important supporting points. Avoid copying the text directly. Use your own words and remain objective.

### Passage 1: The Gig Economy and Labor Rights

The rise of the gig economy has transformed how people work. Platforms like Uber, DoorDash, and Upwork offer flexible job opportunities, but often without traditional benefits like health insurance or paid leave. Many workers appreciate the freedom to set their schedules, yet critics argue that this model exploits labor by avoiding the costs of full employment. As gig work becomes more common, debates continue over whether gig workers should be legally classified as independent contractors or employees.

✎ Task: Summarize the key points about the gig economy and the debate surrounding worker classification.

### Passage 2: Climate Migration and Global Responsibility

As climate change intensifies, more people are being forced to leave their homes due to rising sea levels, droughts, and extreme weather. These "climate migrants" often move within their own countries, but some seek refuge internationally. Currently, international law does not formally recognize climate migrants as refugees, leaving them with limited legal protection. Advocates argue that wealthier nations, which have contributed most to climate change, should offer more support and policy solutions for displaced populations.

✎ Task: Write a concise summary explaining what climate migration is and why it presents legal and ethical challenges.

### Passage 3: Artificial Intelligence in Education

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly changing the field of education. Tools like automated grading systems, personalized learning platforms, and AI tutors are designed to make teaching and learning more efficient. While these tools can support students with diverse needs, critics warn that over-reliance on AI might reduce human interaction and lead to privacy concerns. Educators are exploring ways to integrate AI while still prioritizing critical thinking and meaningful student-teacher relationships.

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✎ Task: Summarize the main benefits and concerns of using AI in education.

## ANSWER SHEET

### Answer Key – Summary Writing Practice

#### Passage 1: The Gig Economy and Labor Rights

##### Example Summary:

The gig economy allows workers flexibility, but often lacks benefits like health insurance or paid leave. This has raised concerns about exploitation. The main debate centers on whether gig workers should be considered employees or independent contractors.

#### Passage 2: Climate Migration and Global Responsibility

##### Example Summary:

Climate change is causing people to move due to rising seas and extreme weather. These climate migrants lack legal recognition and protections under international law. Advocates say richer countries should help since they contributed most to the problem.

#### Passage 3: Artificial Intelligence in Education

##### Example Summary:

AI in education can help with grading and personalized learning, but some worry it may reduce human connection and create privacy risks. Educators are seeking a balance between AI use and maintaining meaningful interactions.

## MORE PRACTICE

Here are some passages with concise summaries to help you practice and see how effective summaries are written:

### Passage 1: Technology and Sleep

Many people use electronic devices like smartphones and tablets right before bed. However, research shows that the blue light from these screens can interfere with the body's natural sleep cycle. This light suppresses melatonin, a hormone that helps regulate sleep. As a result, people may fall asleep later and get lower-quality rest. Experts recommend avoiding screens at least an hour before bedtime or using blue-light filters to reduce the impact.

Summary: Using screens before bed can disrupt sleep by lowering melatonin levels. Experts suggest avoiding devices or using filters to improve sleep quality.

### Passage 2: The Benefits of Reading

Reading regularly has several mental benefits. It improves vocabulary, strengthens the brain, and reduces stress. People who read often tend to have better focus and memory. In addition, reading fiction can improve empathy by allowing readers to understand different perspectives. Whether it's novels, articles, or biographies, reading can support lifelong learning and personal growth.

Summary: Reading boosts vocabulary, memory, and empathy while reducing stress. Regular reading promotes brain health and lifelong learning.

### Passage 3: Recycling Challenges

Recycling is often seen as an easy way to help the environment, but it's more complex than many people realize. Not all materials are recyclable in every area, and contaminated items can ruin whole batches of recyclables. For recycling to work effectively, people need to understand their local guidelines and clean their items before placing them in bins. Education and community effort are key to improving recycling rates.

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Summary: Recycling is helpful but complicated due to varying rules and contamination. Community awareness and proper practices are essential for success.

#### Passage 4: Plastic Pollution in Oceans

Every year, millions of tons of plastic enter the world's oceans, harming marine life and ecosystems. Animals like turtles and seabirds often mistake plastic for food, which can lead to injury or death. Microplastics—tiny plastic particles—are also a growing concern, as they are found in seafood consumed by humans. While efforts such as beach cleanups and bans on single-use plastics help, experts agree that reducing plastic production at the source is the most effective long-term solution.

Summary: Plastic pollution harms ocean life and can affect humans through seafood. Reducing plastic production is the best long-term solution.

#### Passage 5: The Importance of Handwashing in Public Health

Handwashing with soap is one of the simplest and most effective ways to prevent the spread of disease. Germs on hands can easily be transferred to the mouth, eyes, or other people. According to the World Health Organization, proper hand hygiene can reduce diarrheal diseases by up to 40% and respiratory infections by 20%. Despite this, many people still don't wash their hands correctly or frequently. Public health campaigns aim to raise awareness, especially in schools and healthcare settings.

Summary: Handwashing with soap prevents disease, but many neglect it. Health campaigns promote proper hygiene to reduce infections.

#### Passage 6: Solar Panels and Energy Savings

Installing solar panels on homes can significantly reduce electricity bills. While the initial cost can be high, government rebates and falling equipment prices have made solar energy more affordable. Solar panels convert sunlight into electricity, lowering reliance on fossil fuels and reducing carbon emissions. Homeowners in sunny regions can even sell excess energy back to the grid. As technology improves, solar power continues to grow as a clean and cost-effective energy option.

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Summary: Solar panels cut electricity costs and carbon emissions. Despite upfront costs, rebates and energy savings make them a smart, eco-friendly choice.

### Summary Practice – Extended Passage

#### Passage: The Changing Landscape of News Consumption

In the past, people primarily got their news from printed newspapers and television broadcasts. These sources were often produced by large, well-established organizations with professional journalists and editorial oversight. The slow pace of print and scheduled TV broadcasts meant that the public received news in a limited and controlled manner, often once or twice a day.

Today, the internet has transformed how people consume news. Social media platforms, blogs, and online news websites allow for instant updates and a wide range of perspectives. While this has increased accessibility and democratized information, it has also led to the rapid spread of misinformation. Many users struggle to tell the difference between reliable sources and opinion-based or false content.

As news consumption habits change, educators and journalists stress the importance of media literacy. Learning how to analyze news sources, check facts, and understand bias is now a vital skill. Some schools have even added media literacy to their curricula to prepare students for navigating today's complex information environment.

Task: Write a summary in 4–6 sentences explaining how news consumption has changed, what challenges it presents, and why media literacy is important.

### Answer Key – Extended Summary Passage

#### Passage: The Changing Landscape of News Consumption

##### Example Summary:

News consumption has shifted from traditional sources like newspapers and TV to online platforms and social media. This change has made news more accessible but also increased the spread of misinformation. People now face the challenge of identifying credible sources among a flood of unreliable content. To

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address this, media literacy is becoming essential. Schools and educators are teaching students to analyze sources, recognize bias, and verify information. These skills help individuals navigate today's fast-paced and complex media environment.

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