

# Summary Writing

A **SUMMARY** is condensed and is written using your own words to express the main ideas and relevant details from the article. The purpose in writing a summary is to give the basic ideas so that the class understands the gist of the article. Make sure not leave out anything important!



## STEPS:

1. Reread the article.
2. Highlight the most important information to include in your summary.
3. Use your own wording. Rewrite information in a way that is understandable to the reader.
4. Make sure you haven't included any opinion statements. A summary is based on facts, not opinions.

## EXAMPLE:

"Fifty years ago, there were more than 200 women's colleges in the U.S." (McCartney). Now there are 44. At that time, there were all-male colleges, so women had to form their own schools. Since the 1960s and 1970s though, those exclusive schools have opened their doors to include female students. So why then do we continue to have all-female colleges in America? Smith College, one of the 44 remaining women's colleges, reports that over the last 8 years their numbers have continued to increase. When students were asked why they chose to go to a women's college they responded, that "...they wanted to study at a school where there are no boundaries limiting what is acceptable for women" (McCartney). This type of nonrestrictive environment pushes these female students to not only achieve high marks, but to become leaders outside the walls of academia. 20% of women in Congress graduated from single-gender colleges and 30% of the 50 female rising stars in corporate America went to all-female schools. Those opposed to women's colleges state that gender equality in education was established as law in 1972. Because of this, women have thrived at gender-integrated schools. In fact, by looking at the statistics, we can see that, "Women now earn 57% of bachelor's degrees, 63% of master's degrees, and 53% of doctoral degrees..."(Eliot).