So you have to write a summary...



What is a summary?

• A summary is a condensed version of a larger work in your own words.

Begin at the beginning:

- \Rightarrow Take notes as you read
- \Rightarrow Who is the author?
- \Rightarrow What is the article's argument?
- \Rightarrow What is the article's key points in support of the argument?
- \Rightarrow How is the article organized?

You're ready to write:

- Your introduction should identify the author and title of the piece you are summarizing. You will also briefly, paraphrase and identify the main point/author's argument of the piece.
- The body of your summary should be a summary of the author's key points that support their argument or point of their writing.
- Do not include your own opinion.
- Your conclusion is not merely a repeat of your introduction. Instead, your conclusion will communicate the overall significance of the piece you are summarizing. What does the author wish to get across?

***A good summary allows a person, who has never read the article, to understand clearly what the article is about just by reading your summary.

So you have to write an analysis...



What is an analysis? Isn't it a summary?

• No. While a summary deals with what, an analysis deals with why and how an analysis is a close examination of a piece of writing in order to determine how effective it is.

Begin at the Beginning:

- \Rightarrow Read the article closely
- \Rightarrow Identify the main argument of the article and the key points
- \Rightarrow How are the key points supported? With what kind of evidence?

Think while you read:

- ♦ How effective is the author's argument?
- ♦ Look for logical fallacies
- Look for instances of PATHOS, LOGOS, and ETHOS. Do such instances strengthen or weaken the
 argument?

When writing:

- Your introduction will introduce the author and title of the article. The introduction will also introduce the article by briefly summarizing the main point of the article. Your thesis will come at the end of your introduction.
- The body of your analysis will be a close examination of the writing. You will analyze how effective the author's argument is by looking at evidence, logical fallacies, and rhetorical strategies.
- Your conclusion will not merely repeat your thesis. Instead, your conclusion should state the overall significance of the paper. What is you are trying to communicate in your analysis?

Remember:

- * Organize your analysis coherently
- * Stay focused
- * Ask yourself why the argument is effective and how it is or isn't
- * Use transitions
- * Develop your main points