

English 203: Objective summary

Purpose

In this first assignment, you will write an objective summary to show how well you can identify central ideas and how accurately you have read. Objective summaries are used frequently in college-level courses, exams, and workplace writing tasks. They are also used in formal APA style writing, which is common in health and social science fields. You will be writing several for the work you do in this course.

Organization and Development

After reading and rereading the assigned essay carefully, please do the following:

- Provide the title and author of the essay
- State in your own words the main idea, argument, question, or problem that the essay focuses upon
- Explain the most important supporting points throughout the essay
- Maintain an objective stance
- Discuss the author's main points in order of relevance, not necessarily the order in which they are presented in the text

Write in the present tense. Do not use quotations. Your abstract should be about a page long, double-spaced.

Audience

Consider your audience to be unfamiliar with the essay. You should provide enough detail for these readers to help them get a good, condensed understanding of what the essay is about, without leaving out crucial information.

Evaluation

Your abstract counts for 25 points. Make sure that you've followed all the instructions under "Organization and Development."