How to paraphrase

Use your own words to express someone else’s ideas whilst still preserving the meaning of the original source.
What is paraphrasing and why should you do it, anyway?

➔ Paraphrasing is an academic skill

➔ It means to express the meaning of a sentence or paragraph by using different words to say the same thing

➔ Paraphrasing shows more intellectual effort and thought, which are valued by your lecturer
Let’s listen to David Taylor... 

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1t0G7ZnRG8
A paraphrase needs to be referenced

➔ Despite the fact that you used your intellectual effort in writing the paraphrase, the original author MUST be credited (not you)

➔ Where? In two places:
  ◆ in-text (directly after the paraphrase)
  ◆ end-text (the Reference list at the end of your report)
Here’s an example

➔ Original sentence:

“With the explosion of digital technologies, companies are sweeping up vast quantities of data about consumers’ activities, both online and off” (Morey, 2015, p.98).

➔ Paraphrase:

Consumers’ digital and offline activities are generating huge amounts of information that companies are capturing for their own purposes (Morey, 2015, p.98).
Now you try...

Original:

➔ “As the baby boomers retire, the video and computer game-playing younger generations are starting to dominate the workplace” (Woodard, 2015, p. 20).

What are the main concepts?

➔ baby boomers
game-playing
younger generation
workplace
“As the baby boomers retire, the video and computer game-playing younger generations are starting to dominate the workplace” (Woodard, 2015, p. 20).

The game-playing generation is beginning to outnumber the baby boomers in the workplace (Woodard, 2015, p. 20).
Another option...incorporate it in your own writing:

➔ Original:

“As the baby boomers retire, the video and computer game-playing younger generations are starting to dominate the workplace” (Woodard, 2015, p. 20).

➔ Paraphrase:

Woodard (2015, p. 20) has observed that the game-playing generation is beginning to outnumber the baby boomers in the workplace.
Let’s paraphrase this sentence together:

The findings of this study suggest that language barriers and new study requirements are major challenges for international students and that these together with ineffective study skills are factors associated with plagiarism (Tran, 2012, p. 16).

➔ What are the main ideas/concepts in this selection?

- language barriers
- challenges
- international students
- plagiarism
- study skills
My paraphrase:

Some of the problems international students have with plagiarism may stem from writing and studying in a second language and lack of study skills (Tran, 2012, p.16).
What happens now

Spend the next **10 minutes** paraphrasing the selections on the worksheet (with a partner or on your own).

We will go over your sentences as a group. Think about what you found easy about this task, and also, what you found difficult.
References

