Paraphrasing — The Gray Wolf

Paraphrasing is restating published writing in your own words. It can be shorter or longer than the original writing. To paraphrase:

1. Identify the main idea
2. Change the words and word order
3. Change the structure of the paragraph
4. Write about it in a different way

Be careful not to plagiarize. Plagiarism is stealing someone else's writing and passing it off as yours without giving credit to them.

Paraphrase this passage on the gray wolf.

Use the back of this page if you need more room.

The gray wolf (scientific name, Canis lupus) is the largest member of the dog family. At one time gray wolves were the world's most widely distributed mammal, but they are now extinct in much of the United States, Mexico and Western Europe. They live mostly in wilderness and remote areas, but their range has been reduced by about one third, due to over-hunting by humans. Wolves are protected in some areas of the United States, but hunted for fun in others. They are also killed because they are seen as threats to livestock, humans, and their pets. Gray wolves are highly intelligent, social animals that live in affectionate families made up of a mated pair, their offspring and, occasionally, adopted juvenile wolves. A strict hierarchy exists in a pack of wolves, with the alpha wolf at the top of the pack, and the omega at the bottom. The alpha wolf eats first, and only the alpha male and female are allowed to mate. Gray wolves primarily prey on hooved mammals, which they hunt as a pack by tiring them down in short chases. Genetic studies have proved that the gray wolf is the ancestor of the domestic dog. In areas where humans and wolves live closely, wolves are often written about in stories, folklore and mythology.

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