

## Paraphrasing — The Nile River

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 Nile River.

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

At over 4,000 miles long, the Nile River is the world's longest river. In ancient times, each spring water would run off the mountains and the Nile would flood. As the flood waters receded, black, rich soil was left behind. The ancient Egyptians called this fertile soil "The Gift of the Nile." The Nile gave ancient Egyptians many gifts besides the rich soil. Because of the Nile, they had fresh water for drinking and bathing. The Nile also supported trade and transportation. It provided building materials, and natural resources for making cloth and paper. Paper was made from the wild papyrus plant that grew along the Nile's shores. Because of the annual flooding of the Nile, the ancient Egyptians had a high standard of living compared to other civilizations. Egypt would be a desert if it were not for the Nile River.

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