

Sept. 18, 2017 Issue

WRITING AN OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

Summarizing 101 "Now for the Good News"

A *summary* is a short statement or paragraph that tells what an article is mainly about. An *objective summary* does not include your opinions. (Remember that *summarize* means to sum up. When writing a summary, you're summing up what an article says, not weighing in on it. An objective summary is different from a *review*, which includes your opinions.)

Writing an objective summary can help you comprehend what you've read and teach other people about a topic. After all, if you can accurately explain the gist of an article to someone else in just a few sentences, it's likely that you've understood what it's about.

How do you craft an objective summary? Choose any article in this issue of *Upfront*. Then follow the steps below to summarize it.

Step 1: Write the main idea of the article here.

Step 2: Find three key details from the article that support that main idea. Write them in your own words in two to three sentences here. (*Hint:* Avoid choosing minor details from just one section of the article. Instead, pick key details that support the article's *overall* main idea.)

Step 3: Combine your answers to steps 1 and 2 to form one cohesive paragraph. Make sure your sentences are free of opinions. Revise as necessary.

CHALLENGE: On a separate sheet of paper, turn your objective summary into a review of the article. How do an objective summary and a review differ in terms of purpose, tone, and content?

INTEGRATING VISUALS

Sept 18, 2017 - "Now For the Good News"

Close Reading of Photos and Graphics

Photos and graphics are powerful tools that help convey information that words alone cannot. As a reader, you'll get more out of an article if you think about the visuals not as mere artistic elements but as additional sources of information. Choose any feature article in this issue of *Upfront*. Then select three of its visuals to analyze using the table below.

Page Number	Summarize what the visual shows.	Choose a detail from the visual and explain what makes it interesting or surprising.	Explain how this visual adds to or enhances the information provided in the text.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

1. Why do you think the editors chose to include these visuals?

2. What other types of photos or graphics could have been included to support this article? Explain.
