Paraphrasing Answer Key

Example 1: An example of acceptable paraphrasing:

Original Material
New York is referred to as “the city that never sleeps.” At nights, people can be assured that something is going on no matter what the time.

Paraphrase
In New York, there is something to do at all hours of the night.

Example 2: An example of unacceptable paraphrasing:

Original Material
Brooklyn is the most populous of New York City's five boroughs, with approximately 2.5 million residents, and the second-largest in area.

Paraphrase
Brooklyn is the most populous borough in New York City, with about 2.5 million residents, and is the second biggest area.

► This is a bad example of paraphrasing because it substitutes a few words with synonyms but the structure and word order remains the same as the original.

Directions: Paraphrase the following paragraphs.

1. Hemmingway’s work contains a lot of symbolism. In The Old Man and The Sea, the protagonist is struggling to capture a large marlin. His struggle against the marlin symbolizes the protagonist’s struggle against defeat. Hemmingway’s use of symbolism truly affects the way the reader reads and interprets his work.
Paraphrase:
- When reading Hemmingway’s work, it is important to recognize how symbolism affects interpretation.
- Hemmingway’s use of symbolism affects the reader’s interpretation of the work.

2. Organic foods are said to be healthier because they are grown without pesticides, radiation, or genetic mutations that most non-organic food contains. Non-organic foods are often injected with hormones and dyes, which jeopardize the quality of the food.
Paraphrase:
- Organic foods are healthier than most non-organic foods.
3. “No historian should begin research with someone else’s notes. Taking notes is the first (and perhaps most important step) in developing our own interpretation of a subject. It forces us to decide (again and again) what is interesting and important” (Reuben, 2005, p. 413). 

Paraphrase:
- Reuben (2005) states that in order to develop an original analysis of their topic, historians must commence research with their own “notes” rather than relying on a secondary analysis of another’s. 

4. “According to our survey, 30 percent of students agreed that the university should offer a money-back guarantee if students fail to get the job they really want in their field because many students are finding themselves unemployed when they graduate” (Abrams 45). 

Paraphrase:
- Abrams’ survey reveals that the lack of job placement for university graduates has caused some students to believe that their education should come with a money-back guarantee (45).
- According to a survey conducted by Abrams, some students agreed that the university should offer them a money-back guarantee if they fail to find a job in their desired field (45).
- Some students agree that universities should have more responsibility in finding their students employment after graduation.