

G-H-I Summary Exercise Comparison Chart

KOTTON		
<u>Level G</u>	<u>Level H</u>	<u>Level I</u>
Summary	Summation	Précis
Definition in worksheets: A summary is a concise passage that incorporates the story elements. A good summary consists of the main points and the theme of a passage. To do the summarization exercises, students must integrate everything learned up to this point in the program.	Definition in worksheets: A summation is similar to a summary except that instead of summarizing a whole passage, it focuses on a single point in the passage. Summation exercises develop the students' ability to read a passage and write a summation, a 'summary' that focuses on a particular aspect of the passage.	Definition in worksheets: A précis is a summary.* It shortens a piece of writing, leaving only the author's main points. Often these points are expressed in different words and a different order than that used in the original text. (*A précis is not a summation or paraphrase. A <i>summation</i> focuses only on a single section of a passage. A <i>paraphrase</i> uses different words to restate every sentence in the passage.)
EXAMPLE: Ref.: read passage on G 141a EXAMPLE: Ref.: read passage on G 1441a EXAMPLE: Ref.: read passage on G 1441a	EXAMPLE: Ref.: read passage on H 141a	EXAMPLE: Ref.: read passage on I 142b
Theme: (the subject explained in simple terms) Gandhi is the father of independent India	Theme: (the subject explained in simple terms) Jane Eyre waking in the middle of the night	Theme: A woman alone in the woods is in need of food and drink
Main points: Gandhi is the father of independent India; he was born into the Bania caste; he went to England to study law.	Main points: Jane often forgets to draw her curtains; bright moonlight shining through the window awakens Jane; Jane observes that the moon is beautiful but solemn, so draws the curtain to shut it out.	Main points: Although she had eaten some (poor) vegetables, she still needed sustenance; she was stuck where she was until dark; she had money for food and a road map, but she did not know where to look for food and drink; she rested against a tree trunk and watched small birds until she called "Luciente."
Focus point: all the main points	Focus point: Why Jane was awakened in the middle of the night	Focus points: all the main points
Summary: The father of independent India, Mohandas K. Gandhi, was born a member of the Hindu <i>Bania</i> (trading) caste and eventually went to England in 1888 to study law.	Summation : Because she'd forgotten to close her curtains and let down the window-blind, the woman was roused [awakened] by the bright, full moon when it shone in her room.	Précis: Although the woman had ten dollars and a road map, she could not leave her cover until it got dark. She'd eaten some vegetables, but she had to find food and water. As she rested and thought about what she should do, she watched small birds. Then she called Luciente.
Comparison: All main points are covered in the same order as in the passage, as well as with the same general vocabulary even though the sentence structure may be slightly altered; however, less important information (i.e. his birth date, his father's occupation and his marriage) was excluded.	Comparison: Unlike the passage, the summation makes no mention of Jane's habit of forgetfulness that leads to her waking in the middle of the night (only that she forgets on this night to close her curtains). The physical appearance and mood of the personified moon and Jane's subsequent reaction to it are also not mentioned. The summation is strictly focused on why Jane woke up.	Comparison: The précis covers all the main points of the passage, but uses very different vocabulary to express the same thoughts and actions. Also, the order in which the points are expressed differs from the passage to the précis. For instance, in the passage we read that she could not leave her cover until dark before we read that she had ten dollars. In the précis the information about the money is mentioned first. Also, unlike a paraphrase, not every sentence is re-stated.