

# Blog post - prepublication writing of summary

## This piece of writing

- This writing: Summary of a BBC News article
- Suggested work length: 150 words maximum. Do **not** exceed this limit.
- Suggested time: 60 minutes (Planning = 30; writing = 15; editing = 15)  
It normally takes me longer to write a 135 - 150 word summary than it does to write a 300 - 500 word response. Your summary is academic writing.
- Grading rubric: based on IELTS writing 1

## Publication

When you are ready to publish your piece of writing:

- create a new blog post
- give it a title in the format: **Nickname: something interesting that fits your work**
- Copy your work from below. First the summary paragraph. Then the reference citation. (Your response and question for readers will come later.)
- Paste it into the blog post. **Paste without formatting**. We do not want the formatting from this or any other document, certainly not the formatting from the BBC. If your browser does not give you a "Paste without formatting" option, use **Ctrl+Shift+V**
- You can either publish your blog post with just the summary and reference citation or publish it later, after you have written your response and question.
- In your summary, make the title of the article bold and a link to your source article. Also make the URL in your reference citation a link to the source.

## Write it

- Choose one of the following four ways to start your summary paragraph. Fill in the ArticleTitle. Select and write over ...
  - It's a good idea to copy and paste the Article Title from your source, but when you paste, paste without formatting. Or use **Ctrl+Shift+V**
  - Delete the AuthorNames information if the author of the article is unknown.
  - When you are finished, delete any footnotes.
- Check the word count by selecting your text and using Google Word count tool.
- Do not add images here; just write your sentences and paragraphs. It is, however, a very good idea to add an image from your source to your one paragraph summary on the blog.

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*Write on the following page.*

## summary paragraph = less than 150 words

According to “Australia: Oldest rock art is 17,300-year-old kangaroo” (2021), the leader of an indigenous Australian organization has emphasized its importance for ensuring that traditional “stories are not lost” of the recent discovery that an Australian Aboriginal rock painting can be confidently dated to 17,300 years ago. Using radio-carbon dating on mud-wasp nests from both above and below the image of the famously Australian image, which was painted in red clay, the research team could be certain that it was created between 17,500 and 17,100 years ago. One researcher added that similarities to much older rock paintings in Indonesia, now dated back to 45,000 years, suggest possible connections between the two cultures in the region.

words = 123 (v.1 = OK) - but v.2 = 122 words (slightly better language) But **v.3 = 120 words** and clearer language.

time = 12:00 minutes - again, much quicker than [my summary](#) of the longer, more complex article on Bill Gates.

You can also see [my planning notes](#). Planning time = 26: minutes

Total time for this summary paragraph + ref. citation = 38 minutes

Title: **An ageing Australian icon** (? it will do for now, until I can think of something better, perhaps after I write my response, for which I already had some ideas as I first read the article)

In<sup>1</sup> “ArticleTitle”, AuthorFirst LastNames (2021) says/reports ...

In “ArticleTitle” by AuthorFirst LastNames (2021), we learn that / we are told that / it is reported that ...

“ArticleTitle” by AuthorFirst LastNames (2021) says/tells us ...

## Reference<sup>2</sup>

~~LastName, I. (2021, month<sup>3</sup>-date). *ArticleTitle*. BBC. LinkURL<sup>4</sup> - author name not given i~~

*Australia: Oldest rock art is 17,300-year-old kangaroo*. (2021, February 23). BBC.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-56164484>

<sup>1</sup> If you choose this opening language, you need the author’s name because the following verb needs it as a subject. (More complex constructions are possible, but these are enough for now.)

<sup>2</sup> Complete the reference citation for your chosen source according to whether you know the author’s name or not. Write over the notes in the example. Note that the article title here is in *italics*.

- If you know the author’s name, that always comes first in the reference citation. If you do not know the author’s name, which is often the case for BBC articles, the title of the article comes first, formatted in *italics*.
- If you do know the author’s name, write only the Last name and I(nitial) letters only of first or middle names.
- Do not include titles: ~~Mr., Dr., Prof.~~ etc are never included in reference citations.
- For more information and examples, see the excellent [OWL at Purdue](#) website.

<sup>3</sup> The month must be written in full, i.e. February, not ~~Feb~~.

<sup>4</sup> Always copy and paste the URL from the webpage.

