Summary of chosen BBC article

Use this Google Doc to compose your blog post. Writing here first has several benefits for us:

- Google's spelling and grammar check (under the Tools menu) will help you spot and correct errors in your writing. These are not perfect, but they are helpful.
- It allows me to give you both suggestions to correct the language and review comments on your work.

This piece of writing

This writing:	Summary of a BBC News article, including one or two quotations. Integrate the short quotations into your sentences. Do not copy entire sentences.
Suggested length:	200 - 250 words. **250 words maximum.** Do **not** exceed this limit.
Suggested time:	90 - 120 minutes (Planning = 60; writing = 20; editing = 20 - 40). Your summary is academic writing.
Grading rubric:	IELTS writing task 1 = summarizing

Publication

When you are ready to publish your piece of writing:

- create a new blog post (We might already have done this and the next step in class.)
- give it a title in the format: **Nickname: something interesting that fits your work**
- Select and copy all of your work from below and paste it into the blog post, overwriting the xxx in the new blog post.
  - **Note:** the text and paragraph formatting below is appropriate. **Keep it unchanged.**
- Publish your blog post.

Write it

- When you come to step 4 in **the writing process**, select and write over xxxx on the next page.
  - **Note:** the text and paragraph formatting follows standard formatting style for academic writing. **Please keep the set formatting for both your paragraph and the Reference citation.**
- Check the word count by selecting your text and using Google's Word count tool.
- Do not add images here; just write your sentences and paragraphs. If you would like to add images to your blog post after the words are there, that's often a good idea.
- In your reference citation, make the link live (typing a space after it will do that).

Write on the following page.

In "Canterbury Cathedral stained glass is among world's oldest", Pallab Ghosh (2021) explains that evidence from a new dating technology has revised the age of some of the stained glass windows in Canterbury Cathedral to a a date before the notorious murder there in 1170 of Archbishop Thomas Becket by four knights who believed themselves, perhaps mistakenly according to some historians, to have been acting on the orders of King Henry II. This earlier dating means that those windows "would have witnessed all of British history" from the king's argument with his archbishop on, as Ghosh quotes Léonie Seliger, who contributed to the research as the cathedral's stained glass conservator. Ghosh also quotes art historian Madeline Caviness, for whom the discovery "jolted her out of a 'Covid numbness'" when she learned that the new research had confirmed her prediction made in the 1980s that stylistic features of some of of the figures in the series of stained glass windows known as the Ancestors of Christ suggested that they were earlier than the others. The revised theory of the art history is that some of the window panels, dated to before it by a new, non-destructive dating technique using the same spectroscopic analysis that reveals the chemical makeup up of stars revealed the truth, were recovered after a fire had destroyed the cathedral in 1174 and were stored until they joined the new pieces still believed to have been created for the rebuilt cathedral by 13th century masters of stained glass.

Reference

Ghosh, P. (2021, July 27). *Canterbury Cathedral stained glass is among world's oldest.* BBC. https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57768815

I revised the above version to improve the clarity of the language from the version below, which is the one I first published on the blog.

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the cathedral's stained glass conservator. Ghosh also quotes art historian Madeline Caviness, for whom the discovery "jolted her out of a 'Covid numbness'" when she learned that her prediction made in the 1980s that stylistic features of some of of the figures in the series of stained glass windows known as the Ancestors of Christ suggested that they were earlier than the others had been confirmed. The revised theory of the art history is that some of the window panels, dated to before it by a new, non-destructive dating technique using the same spectroscopic analysis that reveals the chemical makeup up of stars revealed the truth, were recovered after a fire had destroyed the cathedral in 1174 and were stored until they joined the new pieces still thought to have been created for the rebuilt cathedral by 13th century masters of stained glass.

Reference

Ghosh, P. (2021, July 27). *Canterbury Cathedral stained glass is among world's oldest.* BBC. https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57768815

Version 2: word count = **246** = still safe. I've only made a few small changes to the first draft. But what's a good title? Science ~~lights up~~ Illuminates the Ancestors of Christ (?)

Unusually, the first draft is already within the word limit. It's only 243 words.

Google's version history tool (under the "File" menu) tells me that it took me exactly 30 minutes to write the paragraph and the reference citation. That's about normal - it usually takes me less time to write a paragraph or essay than it does to plan it.

But I'll review again later this afternoon before I publish to our blog.

And I still have to think of an effective title for my paragraph.

Notes 1 - the first sentence of your summary paragraph

As part of the usual job of a topic sentence, your first sentence must tell us the chosen source your paragraph summarizes. The title of the article should be written inside "quotation marks". The year of publication must also be given, typically in (parentheses), although you can write it in-text as part of your sentence's grammar if you like. You also need to use attributive language. If your chosen article has an author, you must also tell readers the author's name in your first sentence. In academic work, the in-text and parenthetical citations here refer readers to the correct entry in your list of references. (There will only be one in this case, but research papers typically have 20+ reference list entries.)

Notes 2 - writing an APA style reference citation

APA is one of the standard academic styles that follow the **Harvard system** of citing sources. When you write the reference citation for your chosen BBC article, first check whether

the article includes **the author name** or not; then choose the appropriate template below to write your reference citation above. For more detail on APA referencing, see the excellent notes at the University of Purdue's [Online Writing Workshop (**OWL**)](.).

LastName, I.[1] (2021, month[2] date). *ArticleTitle.*[3] BBC. LinkURL[4]

ArticleTitle. (2021, month date). BBC. LinkURL

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[1] It's usual to write the author's full name the first time you cite them in your piece of work, thereafter the last name only. In the reference citation, write only the last name followed by the author's initials. Ignore any titles or positions.

[2] The month must be written in full, i.e. February, not ~~Feb~~.

[3] Note that in your reference citation, the article title is written in italics. It is not put inside "quotation marks".

[4] Always copy and paste the URL from the webpage.