

# ONE-SENTENCE SUMMARY

## Strategy 28



There are different levels of summarization, from a thorough summarization of a main idea and supporting details to a one or two word summarization. One-Sentence Summary falls between the two extremes. Using this strategy, students summarize the main idea and vital details in one sentence. Students transform information to make it their own. This brief writing indicates the student's level of understanding, involves the student in interacting with the content, and provides the teacher with feedback regarding student comprehension.

Adapted from: Comprehension Shouldn't be Silent and Creating Independence Through Student-Owned Strategies



- To encourage brevity, provide students with an index card or sticky note.
- Complete orally, use as a journal entry, or write on a note card.
- Use to summarize, describe, sequence, compare and contrast and/or show problem-solution relationships.
- Use after presentations, videos, online research or field trips.
- Can be completed alone, in pairs or small groups.
- Combine 3-4 one-sentence summaries into a paragraph.

BEFORE: Activate prior knowledge, review a concept previously taught or as a pre-assessment

DURING: Check for understanding

AFTER: Closure activity at end of lesson or class period to help students synthesize and summarize concepts

## IMPLEMENTATION

1. Explicitly teach students how to utilize the One-Sentence Summary frame, modeling how to summarize using content familiar to the student. Teach one sentence type at a time, putting the sentence template on a sentence strip or chart.
2. Read the text, then model selecting one of the sentence frames and summarizing the information. For some students, you may need to tell them which sentence frame to utilize, while other students can select their own.
3. Write summaries as a whole class; provide many examples and opportunities for practice prior to having students complete the summaries independently.

## EXAMPLE

### Description

A \_\_\_\_\_ is a kind of \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Sequence

\_\_\_\_\_ begins with \_\_\_\_\_, continues with \_\_\_\_\_ and ends with \_\_\_\_\_.

### Compare and Contrast

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are similar in that both \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ while \_\_\_\_\_.

### Cause and Effect

\_\_\_\_\_ causes \_\_\_\_\_.

### Problem and Solution

\_\_\_\_\_ wanted \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_.

A fairy tale is a kind of story that is make believe; there is magic and the animals talk. Three Little Pigs begins with the pigs leaving home to seek their fortune, continues with the wolf blowing down two of the houses, and ends with the pig in the brick house living happily ever after. The Little Pigs and The True Story of the Three Little Pigs are similar in that both are about three little pigs and a wolf, but one story is from the pigs' point of view and the other is from the wolf's perspective.