

Lesson Plan:

Summarizing a short article

LEVEL	TIME	TOPIC
Intermediate (B1/B2)	60 minutes	Summarizing a short article

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to state an article's central claim and key support without copying. They will also use evidence from the supplied material and appropriate language to explain a choice or qualify a claim.

Materials

Whiteboard, pens, and paper. Copy or display the supplied model and practice details; hide partner-only details until checking. All sample data are fictional.

Warm-Up Activity (8 minutes)

Activity: Ask whether the article announces a permanent service.

Presentation (15 minutes)

Teach a one-sentence main point, two supporting facts, and neutral reporting. Exclude examples that do not change the message.

Language support: main claim, supporting detail, summary; The article reports...; It argues... Keep your opinion separate.

Worked model / source: Fictional article: Easton tested a new evening bus for four weeks. The route served two neighborhoods with long waits. Passenger counts rose from 40 to 65 per evening. Residents requested a longer trial. The council has not decided whether to continue it.

Guided Practice (15 minutes)

Activity: Highlight central event, two relevant details, decision status. Remove The buses were probably uncomfortable from a draft summary.

Suggested answers / teacher notes: The claim about comfort is unsupported. Model summary: Easton tested an evening route; use rose, but continuation remains undecided.

Procedure: Complete the first item together. Partners attempt the remaining items before seeing the notes. Ask them to explain a correction, then rehearse the corrected version.

Independent Practice (17 minutes)

Task: Write a 60-80-word summary using the article. Partner checks every claim against the text and labels any added opinion.

Success check: Check trial versus permanent service, correct figures, and decision status. Teach paraphrase without replacing precise facts with vague synonyms.

Support and challenge: Offer the target phrase frames during planning. For a challenge, ask learners to justify a wording choice, consider a different audience, or identify a limitation without adding unsupported information.

Wrap-Up / Review (5 minutes)

Review: Ask for a one-sentence summary that preserves the central point.

Ask learners to explain their response using the model or practice material. Revisit one shared difficulty before collecting the final work.

Homework (Optional)

Revise the summary to remove unnecessary quotations and opinion.

Follow-up: Use the supplied model as a reference. Bring the response back for a brief partner check against the lesson objective; correct one detail or language choice before submitting it.