



Academic Writing



Paragraph Writing: Quotations

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

EXAMPLE

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Writing Exercise: Paraphrasing

Topic: Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

EXAMPLE

Time: 60+ minutes

Level: **** [B1/B2/C1]

Lesson Plan

Aim: To develop the students' ability to write a paragraph using a range of quotes to create a cohesive piece of writing. This type of exercise practises paraphrasing and linking devices.

1. Lead in

Ask students to:

- Discuss what Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is, and what it's used for.
- Write down 'the reasons in favour of and against continuing to use GDP as a measure of economic progress' ([students could do some internet research here](#)).
- Decide where they stand. Are they for or against?
- Feed in / check key vocabulary (see next page).

2. Lesson

- Choose three of these quotations and write a paragraph (approx. 120-180 words) on the following: *'The reasons against continuing to use GDP as a measure of economic progress far outweigh the reasons for using it'*. Use accurate in-text citation and appropriate paraphrasing.
- Distribute the handout of quotes: writing exercise 1.
- Students read the quotes, check any unknown vocabulary, identify the positive and negative statements and then choose **3 key quotes** to put in a paragraph.
- Give 40 minutes.
- Peer feedback ([use the peer review form on page 5](#)) or teacher marks [use marking code: www.academic-englishuk.com/error-correction].
- Distribute the sample answer with questions for analysis ([page 6](#)).
- Students answer the questions with a partner.
- Distribute, display or project answers for the paragraph analysis activity ([page 7](#)).

Differentiation

- Option 1: Reduce the number of quotes from 10 to 6.
- Option 2: Focus just on the pros or cons (pros = quotations 1,3,5,7,9; cons = quotations 2,4,6,8,10).
- Option 3: Students write in pairs or small groups.

Gross Domestic Product: Writing Exercise 1

Choose three of these quotations and write a paragraph (approx. 120-180 words) on the following: 'The reasons against continuing to use GDP as a measure of economic progress far outweigh the reasons in favour of using it'. Use accurate in-text citation and appropriate paraphrasing.

1. 'GDP is important because it gives information about the size of the economy and how an economy is performing' (Callen, 2019).
2. [redacted] it pushes GDP up, because with more people, more money will be spent. But individuals within [redacted]. They may be [redacted] while GDP goes up' (BBC, 2024).
3. 'It is a standardized measure across countries, and is relied [redacted] whether [redacted], or to stabilize or grow the economy' (Fraumeni, 2022).
4. [redacted] the fact that the standard metric of economic growth, gross domestic product (GDP), merely measures [redacted] and [redacted] (Kapoor and Debroy, 2019).
5. 'An advantage of GDP is the extent to [redacted], such as the [redacted] measures, such as happiness, depend to a greater extent on components that are more difficult to [redacted] (Fraumeni, 2022).
6. [redacted] doesn't take into account whether the economic growth it measures is sustainable, or the environmental [redacted] (BBC, 2024).
7. 'It lets [redacted] it can afford to tax and spend, and helps businesses decide whether to expand and hire [redacted] (BBC, 2024).
8. [redacted] effects created in the process of production and development' (Kapoor and Debroy, 2019).
9. [redacted], in that it makes no judgments [redacted] bad economic activity. It is simply the [redacted] is currently produced in a country' (Fraumeni, 2022).
10. [redacted] all five elements of [redacted], natural, human and social capital into [redacted] (Kumar, 2018).

References

BBC, (2024). [redacted] [online]. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-13200758> [Accessed 06.06.2024].

[redacted] Domestic Product: An Economy's All [online]. Available at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/fandd/issues/Series/Back-to-Basics/gross-domestic-product-GDP> [Accessed 07.06.2024].

Fraumeni, B. A., (2022). Gross domestic product [redacted]: <https://wol.iza.org/articles/gross-domestic-product-are-other-measures-needed/long> [Accessed 06.06.2024].

[redacted] Is Not a Measure of Human Well-Being [online]. Available at: <https://hbr.org/2019/10/gdp-is-not-a-measure-of-human-well-being> [Accessed 08.06.2024].

Kumar, P., (2018). GDP is no longer an [redacted] [online]. Available at: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/11/forget-gdp-for-the-21st-century-we-need-a-modern-economic-measure/> [Accessed 07.06.2024].

Paragraph Peer Feedback Form

EXAMPLE

	Yes	No	Comments <i>Anything missing, unclear or a mistake.</i>
Main Body			
Is there a clear topic sentence?			
Is there a main argument?			
Are the ideas supported?			
Are there [redacted] paragraph?			
Are the ideas commented upon and evaluated?			
Are the [redacted] effectively?			
Is the in-text referencing accurate?			
Is there [redacted] sentence?			
Highlight anything you don't understand.			
Language			
Highlight any vocabulary mistakes.			
Highlight any grammar mistakes.			
Highlight any [redacted] mistakes.			
Organisation			
Is it [redacted] ?			
What [redacted] have they used?			
[redacted] you don't understand?			
Overall			
What did they do well?			
What do they need [redacted] ?			

Sample Answer

A nation's level of Gross Domestic Product, or GDP, has [redacted] [redacted] economy. However, those who oppose the use of GDP to show how [redacted] argue that it is [redacted]. In instance, one of the ways in which GDP increases is when public expenditure rises due to [redacted]. [redacted] suggest that the [redacted]. In truth, by focusing solely on [redacted] is completely excluded, meaning [redacted] actually be falling into poverty (BBC, 2024; Kapoor and Debroy, 2019). Consequently, [redacted] proposed [redacted]. Kumar (2018) advocates for an indicator that includes 'financial, produced, natural, [redacted] true size and [redacted] reflected.

149 words

Paragraph Questions

- 1) Is there a topic sentence? What is the topic? What is/are the controlling ideas?
- 2) Is there a main argument?
- 3) Which [redacted]?
- 4) Is it logical and clear? How has the paragraph been organised?
- 5) Is there [redacted]?
- 6) Is there a concluding sentence? What is concluded?
- 7) How are [redacted] incorporated?

ANSWERS

EXAMPLE

Paragraph Questions **ANSWERS**

1) Is there a topic sentence? What is the topic? What is/are the controlling ideas?

Topic: GDP as an indicator of a nation's economy. Controlling ideas: GDP limitations and a more accurate solution.

ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...