



# From Notes to Summary Sentences

Module 5 · IGCSE English 0500 Summary Writing

WRITING SKILLS

# Where You Are Now

**Before writing begins, you've already mastered the building blocks:**

01

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## **Identify the Focus**

**Understand what the question is asking**

03

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## **Create Notes**

**Record ideas in brief, clear form**

**Now it is time to begin writing.**

02

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## **Find Main Ideas**

**Distinguish key points from supporting details**

04

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## **Organise by Category**

**Group related notes together**

# A Common Mistake

Many students turn every note into a separate sentence — this sounds repetitive and simplistic.

## ✗ Weak Summary

People meet friendly locals.  
They receive help from  
cyclists. They build  
confidence. They enjoy  
wildlife.

## ✓ Strong Writers

Combine ideas into fewer,  
smoother sentences that  
sound more formal and  
polished.



# Combining Notes into Sentences

## Notes

welcoming locals ·  
helpful cyclists

## ✗ Weak

Cyclists meet  
welcoming locals.  
Cyclists also meet  
helpful cyclists.

## ✓ Better

Cycle touring provides opportunities to meet friendly  
and supportive people.

## What makes it better?

- Shorter and smoother
- Combines multiple ideas
- Sounds more formal

# Practice 1: Combining Notes

Use each set of notes to write one summary sentence.

1

## Natural World

flowers · wildlife · forests · beaches

2

## Personal Growth

confidence · discovering strengths  
· overcoming challenges

3

## Cultural Experiences

villages · unusual meals · local  
culture



Write one sentence per set — combine all the notes into a single, smooth idea.



# Building Formal Summary Sentences

## ✗ Avoid Informal Language

- "You get to see cool animals."
- "It's really fun."
- "You'll have an awesome time."

## ✓ Use Formal Language

- "Travellers can observe wildlife."
- "The journey offers memorable experiences."
- "Cyclists gain confidence through overcoming challenges."

# Practice 2 & 3: Formal Language & Paraphrasing

## Practice 2: Rewrite Formally

"You get to meet lots of nice people."

"It's really exciting to see animals and flowers."

"You find out you're stronger than you thought."

## Practice 3: Use Your Own Words



**Cambridge rewards candidates who paraphrase. Staying too close to the original loses marks.**

Original: "We discover that we're capable of so much more than we ever thought possible."

**✓ Better: Cycle touring helps travellers develop confidence and recognise their strengths.**

# Building a Summary Paragraph

Strong summaries combine multiple categories into one cohesive paragraph.



## Social Experiences

friendly locals · helpful cyclists



## Nature

wildlife · scenery



## Personal Growth

confidence · discover strengths

✓ Better Summary: Cycle touring provides opportunities to meet friendly and supportive people, appreciate nature, and develop confidence through overcoming challenges.

# Practice 4 & 5: Sentence Construction

Use the note categories below to practise writing summary sentences.

## Social + Nature

welcoming locals · helpful cyclists ·  
flowers · wildlife

→ *Write ONE summary sentence.*

## Travel + Growth

villages · unusual meals ·  
confidence · discovering strengths

→ *Write ONE summary sentence.*

## Mini Summary

Use all four categories above to  
write a 40–60 word summary  
paragraph.

 **Combine categories smoothly — avoid listing ideas one by one.**

# Reflection & Exit Ticket

## Exit Ticket

Turn these notes into one summary sentence:

📄 **confidence · discovering strengths · overcoming challenges**

## Success Criteria

- **Combine notes into sentences**
- **Use formal language**
- **Paraphrase — avoid copying**
- **Connect ideas smoothly**

