

Summarising and Retelling Skills Worksheet

What Is It?

When we summarise and retell, we find the most important information from a text and make those bits shorter (more concise). These skills are not just used for reading; they are used in all subject areas.

How Do We Use It?

- We ask ourselves, what are the main ideas? What are the necessary details needed for supporting the ideas? What information is irrelevant (not important)?
- You could use the Five W's strategy when summarising and retelling (who, what, when, where and why).
- You can also summarise and retell by using text features such as titles, subtitles or headings.



Question One

Read the following text and answer the questions that follow.

Freya loves netball. She plays it every day at school. Then, when she gets home, she plays some more. She can pass, shoot, defend and is so agile. Freya can charge up and down the court all day long. When she plays in a shooting position, she gets lots of goals. When defending, the opposition doesn't get many goals.

All of her teammates and coaches say she is quite incredible. Someday, when Freya grows up, she wants to play for the Silver Ferns.

a. Who is the story about?

b. What is the story about?

c. Why do you think the story was written?

d. What does it say at the end of the story?

e. Where could this story have taken place?

f. Summarise the impression you are given about Freya.

g. Number the summarising sentences (from 1-5) in the order they happened.

Freya gets lots of goals.

She plays netball every day.

Freya wants to play for the Silver Ferns one day.

She can pass, shoot, defend and is so agile.

Her coach and teammates think she is incredible.

h. Tick the statement which best describes Freya.

- An incredible netball player.
- A defender who is improving her shooting skills.
- Someone who was too small to play defence.
- A great team player but not a very good coach.

Question Two

Read the following text and answer the questions that follow.

The Tiny Curry Leaf: Restaurant Review

Written by Sanaya (9) and Finn (10)

This restaurant is tucked behind a supermarket off the main road. It is colourful inside and out. The lady who greeted us had a big smile and showed us the curry plant in the middle of the restaurant. The chef uses it for cooking. It smells, well, like curry. The menu is easy to read and choose from. It had starters followed by vegetarian, fish and meat dishes and finished with a selection of homemade ice creams for dessert.

We had some poppadoms to begin with. They came with sauces for dipping. One was like fire on your tongue, and the other was soft and creamy. We had not had them before, and with the sauces, they tasted yummy. I (Sanaya) had butter chicken for my main meal, and Finn had chana masala (chickpea stew). We both ate every bit. My butter chicken was creamy and mild with large chunks of tender chicken. Finn's stew was rich and had a tingly bit of spice, which he thought was nice. We both had the best tasting naan bread. We dipped it into our curries and mopped up the final remains too. For dessert, we both tried cardamom and mint-flavoured ice cream. Cardamom is a spice that is not too sweet. It was delicious ice cream.

We had an excellent meal at the Tiny Curry Leaf. The cost was \$20 per person for three courses. I think you'd be silly not to give it a try.

a. Who is involved in the review?

b. What is it about?

c. Why is it written?

d. Where does it take place?

e. What type of food does the restaurant specialise in?

f. Record (retell) what they had for their meal?

g. Number the summarising sentences (from 1-6) in the order they happened.

The reviewers had poppadoms to start their meal.

The menu was easy to read.

The meal cost \$20 per person.

The restaurant was colourful inside and out.

They had cardamom and mint ice cream for dessert.

They both had naan bread and dipped it into their curries.

h. Summarise how they described the three meal courses they had at the restaurant.
