

Student name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

3 Now listen to Student B's sentences and rephrase them. Use a verb if you hear a noun, or a noun if you hear a verb.

In *C21 English for the 21st Century*, Level 5, you look at rephrasing in Unit 5A. Here, you will have the opportunity to learn more. You should use this **Worksheet** in conjunction with the **Worksheets** on **Paraphrase** and **Recognize paraphrasing** to help you improve your own skills.

Practice

1 The text on the left below is taken from a lecture in *C21 English for the 21st Century*, Level 5. Someone has started to edit it in order to make it suitable for a written article. Look at the changes that have been made and suggest how to continue the rest of the article. You will need to delete the 'spoken' language and rephrase some sections. Make notes of your reasons.

~~As you will know if you have prepared for this lecture, the Itaipu Dam is built on the Paraná River in South America, on the border of Brazil and Paraguay. And due to its location, the whole project has been shared between the two countries. I will come on to that later.~~

~~But first, the construction. Clearly, it is no easy feat to construct something of this size. It takes time and it costs money. To be precise, building started in 1975 and the dam officially opened in 1984. So that's nine years. And the construction process involved around 40,000 workers, and here's a figure for you if you can picture it; 50 million tonnes of earth and rock were moved throughout construction. So it won't surprise you that this cost a lot of money – a staggering 19.6 billion dollars, which makes it one of the most expensive structures on earth.~~

So, what did they get for their money? Well, as you would hope for nearly 20 billion dollars, it has some very significant benefits, the most important being the amount of power actually produced. The dam produces an incredible 14,000 megawatts, which, to give you an idea, is enough to power 26% of all the electricity in Brazil and 78% of all electricity in Paraguay. And, of course, this energy is renewable, thereby reducing the global dependence on fossil fuels.

Another less obvious benefit, and I mentioned this earlier, is that the whole project has required a great deal of cooperation between the two countries. True, it hasn't all been plain sailing – there have been some quite high-profile disagreements over the years – but as a binational project, it has helped to build a relationship between Brazil and Paraguay or, at the very least, it has required a lot of communication between the two countries.

delete references to lecture

delete these to keep it simple
delete references to 'I'

Combine these two sentences – begin with 'Constructing ...'; rephrase 'no easy feat'

delete 'spoken' English
delete 'spoken' English

2 Look at each sentence and use the suggestions in brackets to rephrase it.

- a You're just not doing enough work. (Make it less confrontational, more tactful and motivating; begin with *Perhaps*.)

- b The company made €100,000 in its first five years, which is not bad, I suppose. (Make it sound more positive; use *impressive*.)

- c Sit down and wait until you're called. (Make it polite.)

- d The development of telephonic communication ultimately culminated in the creation of the internet. (Use simpler English; use *the telephone*, *indirectly led to* and *some time later*.)

- e Scientists were not disappointed by the results. (Make it easier to understand; replace the double negative of *not disappointed*.)

- f If you want to get on in life, you need to work hard. (Make it more formal; use *In order to*; replace the conditional, the phrasal verb and the references to *you*.)

3 Discuss whether the second sentence in each extract is a rephrased version of the first sentence or an explanation of the first sentence.

- a Research has shown that a cheap but good bus or train system helps free up the roads for essential traffic. In other words, people are more likely to choose to use public transport if it does the job without costing the earth.
Rephrased / Explanation
- b Our approach to mental health issues has changed in recent years. Instead of removing people from society and locking them away, they are now much more likely to receive care within the community.
Rephrased / Explanation

4 In pairs, discuss alternatives for the highlighted words and phrases in Exercise 3. What differences (if any) do the changes make?

5 Continue the second sentence to rephrase or explain the first.

- a I found myself unable to complete my studies. In other words, _____

- b You should not let other people decide what subject you should study. Essentially, _____

- c There is no accommodation available on campus. What this means is _____

- d Around half of the people I graduated with found jobs. Another way of looking at this is to say that _____

- e** My academic record was far from exemplary. By this I mean _____

- f** I was a little disappointed with some of the lectures I attended. To put it another way, _____

Reflect

- 6** Think about the rephrasing and explaining you have seen in this Worksheet. Look at the table below and suggest alternatives to fill the gaps.

Formal / Academic	Less formal / Colloquial
relatively easy	a _____
b _____	because of where it is
not at all easy	c _____
d _____	falling out between important people
impressive	e _____
f _____	sit down
culminate in	g _____
h _____	if you want to
succeed (in life) / be a success	i _____
j _____	show/reveal
economical/affordable	k _____
l _____	cost the earth
our approach to	m _____
n _____	lock someone away
issues/matters	o _____
p _____	quit my studies / drop out
accommodation	q _____
r _____	poor / not very good