Writing an Objective Summary

Sum It Up

An objective summary is a paragraph that tells what an article is mainly about. It does not include your opinions. Writing an objective summary of an informational text can show that you’ve understood what you’ve read. Read the sample objective summary below, then write your own for the article “Every Vote Really Counts.”

Sample Objective Summary

In the JS article “The Great Immigration Debate” (pp. 10-15), author Patricia Smith explores America’s complicated history with immigrants. Since the United States was founded, it has gone through periods of welcoming large numbers of immigrants, as well as times when the number of immigrants allowed in was dramatically reduced—often restricting those from certain countries. The issue has been given renewed focus during President Donald Trump’s first year in office. Trump has ramped up arrests and deportations of immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally, while limiting legal immigration and the number of refugees allowed in. Today, supporters of immigrants say they are good for the U.S. economy because many take low-paying jobs that few Americans want, while critics argue that immigrants take jobs from Americans and that those here illegally often commit crimes. With the number of foreign-born Americans projected to grow in the years ahead, the debate is likely to continue. However, some experts say Americans will probably put their fears about immigration aside—as they’ve done in previous generations.

Now write an objective summary of “Every Vote Really Counts” on the lines below.

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