HOW DO I PARAPHRASE?

what is paraphrasing?

Rewording a sentence using your own words while maintaining the general idea of the passage

tips:

- ★ Read the passage until it makes sense to you
- ★ Define unfamiliar words
- ★ Find some of the major words in the sentence and look up **synonyms**
- ★ Try to re-order words within the sentence
- ★ Take brief notes or create a mind map or lotus chart of the main points of a passage
- ★ **Try this**: Cover or hide the passage. Once the passage is hidden from view, write out the author's idea, in your own words, as if you were explaining it to someone else

Activity - Paraphrase the following passage:

Forest Biomes

Biomes are very large ecological regions on earth where plants and animals have adapted in response to the physical factors such as climate, relief, geology and soils. A biome should not be confused with an ecosystem or habitat. Indeed, any biome can comprise a variety of ecosystems and habitats. There are five major categories of biomes on earth: *Desert, Aquatic, Grassland, Tundra* and *Forest*. Within these five, there are many sub-biomes, under which are many more well defined ecosystems. This article focuses on the forest biome.

The forest biome largest and most complex terrestrial biome. Today, forests cover about one-third of the world's land surface and are found in many different terrestrial regions around the globe. The forest biome includes terrestrial habitats that are dominated by trees and other woody plants. Forests play a specific and important role in the global carbon cycle by absorbing carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, storing carbon above and below ground, and producing oxygen as a by-product of photosynthesis. Regrettably, forests are threatened by deforestation for logging, agriculture, and industry and human habitation.

There are three general types of forests—*temperate forests, tropical forests,* and *boreal forests*. Each of these forest types differs in climate, species composition, and community structure.

Temperate forests have a moderate climate and a growing season that lasts between 140 and 200 days of the year. Well-defined seasons with a distinct winter characterise this forest biome. Precipitation ranges from 75-150 cm and is distributed evenly throughout the year. It has soil that is generally fertile and enriched with decaying litter. In Australia, warm-temperate rainforests grow in New South Wales and Victoria, and cool-temperate rainforests are found in Victoria and Tasmania and in small areas at high altitude in New South Wales and Queensland. Temperate forests are also found in eastern North America, western and central Europe, and northeastern Asia.

Tropical forests are characterised by the greatest diversity of species. They occur near the equator, within the area bounded by the tropical latitudes of 23.5 degrees north and 23.5 degrees south. One of the major characteristics of tropical forests is their distinct seasonality: winter is absent, there is only the wet and dry seasons. The temperature range of tropical rainforests is from 20 to 25° Celsius and varies little throughout the year. Precipitation is evenly distributed throughout the year, with annual rainfall exceeding 200 cm. Soil is generally nutrient-poor and acidic. The tree canopy in tropical forests is multilayered and continuous, allowing little light penetration. Rainforests in Australia can be found in east Queensland with the Daintree being one of the best known. Rainforests are also found in Amazon Basin in South American and the Congo Basin in Africa.

Boreal forests, also known as taiga forests, represent the largest terrestrial biome. They occur in latitudes from 50 and 60 degrees north. Boreal forests can be found in the broad belt of Eurasia and North America: two-thirds in Siberia with the rest in Scandinavia, Alaska, and Canada. Seasons are divided into short, moist, and moderately warm summers and long, cold, and dry winters. The length of the growing season in boreal forests is 130 days. Boreal forests are characterised by low temperatures with precipitation of 40-100cm annually, which is primarily in the form of snow. Soil is thin, nutrient-poor, and acidic. The tree canopy permits low light penetration, and as a result, understory is limited. The forest trees are mostly cold-tolerant evergreen conifers with needle-like leaves, such as pine, fir, and spruce.

Your paraphrased version: