1.7 Summarising

1 What makes a good summary?

A good summary requires:

selection of most important aspects/ clear description/ accuracy

2 Stages of summarising

(c)

(d)

(b)

(a)

(e)

3. Practice A – Mechanical pickers

1 = a (contains all key points)

2 = c (includes unnecessary examples)

3 = b (includes information not in original, e.g. increase profits and fails to describe the machines)

4 Practice B – Wealth and fertility

(Example answers)

(a) Falling levels of fertility have generally been found as countries become richer.

(b) In some, number of children born fell below replacement rate.

(c) Two results: smaller populations and larger numbers of elderly needing assistance.

(d) Recent research claims that a new situation may be developing.

(e) Comparison of HDI (human development index: life expectancy, income and education) with fertility found that in most highly rated (+0.9) countries, fertility is rising.

<u>Example summary 1</u>

The growing family?

Falling levels of fertility have generally been found as countries become richer. In some, the number of children born has fallen below the replacement rate. There are two likely results: smaller populations and larger numbers of elderly needing assistance. But recent research claims that this pattern may be changing. A comparison of HDI (human development index: life expectancy, income and education) with fertility found that in most highly rated (HDI +0.9) countries, fertility is rising.

(Example summary 2)

Research suggests that the long-term decline in human fertility may be reversing in some of the most advanced societies.

5 Practice C – The last word in lavatories?

(Example summary)

The Washlet is an expensive lavatory which is popular in Japan, with a range of special features. Its maker, the Toto company, is hoping to expand sales in the West, but different regulations about toilet design and electrical fittings make this a challenging goal.