

# Paraphrase

Objective: Practice students' listening skills by paraphrasing what they hear from their partners.

Directions:

1. Pair students and designate one as A and the other as B. Together the two students find a subject on which they disagree with each other (e.g., a controversial issue).
2. Student A makes a statement on the subject. Student B is responsible for paraphrasing the thought. Student B should only repeat what he or she heard from A without adding his or her own opinion on the subject.
3. Student B continues revising the statement until A is assured B understands the statement completely.
4. Reverse roles. Repeat the procedure 2 & 3.
5. Lead a discussion on how this process differed from typical conversations on controversial topics. Finally, ask how the use of paraphrase increases understanding in everyday conversations.