### Wie du eine summary schreibst

#### Task

Sum up the text “About my future” published in a school magazine. Stick to the criteria that are important for summary writing.

#### About my future by Laura Linley

Hi, my name is Laura, and I will be finished with high school in exactly three days. After that, I'm free – no looking back. I am seventeen – well, almost eighteen – and have everything to live for. For the eight months before I go to university, I'll have more time on my hands than I know what to do with. Maybe I'll tour around Europe. Or perhaps I can travel across America. The possibilities are endless. I told my parents I wanted to see Vancouver, India, and Tibet. I want to see oceans and mountains, jungles and deserts. My mother simply said “fine”, as long as I didn’t mind being raped and murdered. The world isn’t the same as it used to be, she said. This is it! This is the real thing – I’m not going to waste my time planning for something bigger and better that I’m not even sure will come along. It seems like everything is a preparation for something else. You go to elementary school to prepare for high school. You go to high school to prepare for university. You go to university to prepare for God-knows-what. Oh yes, I remember – to learn how to make as much money as you can as quickly as possible, so you can finally retire at the age of 65 and play tennis and golf all day long. I don’t want to end up looking back on my life like this. My father also wondered where I intended to get the money for university once I’ve spent it on “senseless” journeys and expeditions. And if I didn’t decide to go to university, how would I get a job, raise a family, and retire? All those tedious questions – I’m simply fed up with them. So here’s my suggestion: Plan for the future, but only plan for what makes you happy – not your parents, not society, and not even your friends. Travel, enjoy yourself, explore. Be purposeless and spontaneous and creative and innovative and free – but make it mean something. Find your own way, and when you’re retired and old and grey, you’ll be able to say, “I haven’t regretted anything so far.”

### Das musst du wissen

Ein summary (Inhaltsangabe)fasst die wichtigsten inhaltlichen Aussagen eines Textes (Zeitungsartikel, Roman, Geschichte etc.) zusammen und ist kürzer als der Originaltext. Wichtig ist, dass du nicht deine persönliche Meinung schreibst, sondern den Text objektiv zusammenfasst.


Achte beim Schreiben auf Folgendes:

- Schreibe im present tense (auch wenn es sich um eine Geschichte handelt, die in der Vergangenheit spielt).
- Verwende deine eigenen Worte und schreibe nicht wörtlich ab.
- Wird im Originaltext direkte Rede verwendet, dann verwendest du die indirekte Rede.

### Schritt 1: Lies den Text und markiere wichtige Passagen

Lies im ersten Schritt den Text aufmerksam durch und markiere dir wichtige Passagen. Du kannst dir selbstverständlich auch Notizen am Rand machen.
About my future by Laura Linley

Hi, my name is Laura, and I will be finished with high school in exactly three days. [...] I am seventeen – well, almost eighteen – and have everything to live for. For the eight months before I go to university, I’ll have more time on my hands than I know what to do with. Maybe I’ll tour around Europe. Or perhaps I can travel across America. [...] My mother simply said “fine”, as long as I didn’t mind being raped and murdered. The world isn’t the same as it used to be, she said. This is it! This is the real thing – I’m not going to waist my time planning for something bigger and better that I’m not even sure will come along. [...] I don’t want to end up looking back on my life like this. My father also wondered where I intended to get the money for university once I’ve spent it on “senseless” journeys and expeditions. [...] So here’s my suggestion: Plan for the future, but only plan for what makes you happy – not your parents, not society, and not even your friends. Travel, enjoy yourself, explore. [...] Find your own way, and when you’re retired and old and grey, you’ll be able to say, “I haven’t regretted anything so far.”

Schritt 2: Lies den Text nochmals und beantworte die W-Fragen

Bei einer Zusammenfassung erklärst du, wer, was, wann und wo tut. Du versuchst also die klassischen W-Fragen zu beantworten. Die Fragen an einen Text können zum Beispiel so aussehen:

Who? (Who does …? Who is the … about?)
What? (What happens? What does she/he do?)
When? (When does it take place?)
Where? (Where does it happen?)
Why? (Why does he/she act this way?)

Beachte, dass du bei einigen Texten vielleicht nicht alle W-Fragen beantworten kannst oder sie etwas abwandeln musst.

Who is the text about? Laura; she is a teenager and will have finished her final exams soon.
What happens? Laura is in a dilemma, because she will soon have plenty of time at her disposal before she goes to university. Although she has a vague idea of what to do, she is not really sure how to spend her time sensibly. Laura wants to avoid leading a life that is meaningless. She feels like experiencing something exciting and new. She would hate ending up like most people: school – university – job, and so on. She suggests that you should make plans for the future, but you shouldn’t listen to other people’s advice and suggestions. You should only do what is best for you, undertaking what might make you happy in the end, because then you won’t regret anything.
How and why do Laura’s parents react differently? Laura’s mother reacts in a sort of humorous way. She doesn’t mind her daughter travelling the world, but Laura should be aware of the dangers she might have to face. Her father is rather practical about the issue. He wants her to consider the financial aspect of travelling around, because she might need the money for university. He also seems to be worried about his daughter’s future.

Schritt 3: Schreibe die Einleitung

Schreibe die Einleitung deines summary und bringe darin das Thema des Textes auf den Punkt.

The text, "About my future", written by Laura Linley, is taken from a school magazine. The article is about Laura herself, a teenager who will have finished her final exams soon. Laura is talking about her life after school.

Schritt 4: Schreibe den Hauptteil

Nenne im Hauptteil die wichtigsten Punkte des Artikels. Verwende dazu deine Notizen zu den W-Fragen.

She is considering travelling the world, but her parents are trying to dissuade her. Whereas her mother talks about possible risks, her father has a rather practical approach to the situation: Money might be a problem, since he wants her to go to university.

Schritt 5: Schreibe die Schlussbetrachtung

Formuliere nun die Schlussbetrachtung deines summary. Fasse in einem neutralen Ton zusammen, mit welcher Aussage der Originaltext endet.

Laura, however, is of the opinion that you should do the things you want to do, no matter what other people might say.

Schritt 6: Prüfe dein summary auf mögliche Fehler
Lies deinen Text noch einmal durch und prüfe ihn auf mögliche Fehler. Achte auf die logischen Übergänge zwischen den Sätzen, die Rechtschreibung, die Wortstellung und natürlich die Grammatik.

Lösung

The text, "About my future", written by Laura Linley, is taken from a school magazine. The article is about Laura herself, a teenager who will have finished her final exams soon. Laura is talking about her life after school. She is considering travelling the world, but her parents are trying to dissuade her. Whereas her mother talks about possible risks, her father has a rather practical approach to the situation: Money might be a problem, since he wants her to go to university. Laura, however, is of the opinion that you should do the things you want to do, no matter what other people might say.