

# Sample Question

How did the immigration of East European Jews to the United States affect the trade union movement?

# Step One: Answering Begins With Reading

- Determine how “broad” or how “narrow” the question is.

## Narrow Questions Have Limits

- Does the question limit the answer to a certain time period, or certain geographical area, or a certain person or group?

# Limits on Sample Question

How did the immigration of East European Jews to the United States affect the trade union movement?

This question is narrowed by the words:

“East European Jews”

“United States”

“Trade union movement.”

# Broader Questions

- ask you for your opinion about a process or event or idea.
- ask you to explain a process or event or idea.
- ask you to explain the affects of a process, event, or idea on something else.

# Example of a Broader Question

The sample question could be made broader by removing the limits:

What effect did immigration have on the United States?

This question has no limits regarding time period or group. What is the only limit?

# Step Two: Gathering Information

- As you read, underline or highlight any words, dates, or names that appear in the question.
- Make notes in the book.
- If you choose not to write in the book, be sure to include the page number when you take notes on a separate sheet of paper.

# Turn the Question into an Answer

How did the immigration of East European Jews to the United States affect the trade union movement?

If you use the same language to answer the question, the words will guide you to answer it completely.

The immigration of East European Jews affected the trade union movement in the United States by....

# State Your Answer in Your Own Words

Paraphrasing, or putting your answer into your own words, helps you to do two accomplish two important jobs for a writer:

- Helps you understand the information
- Keeps you from being accused of plagiarizing, the unacknowledged use of someone else's words

# Steps for Paraphrasing

Adopted from Fitzgerald, Kathy and Jaime McBeth-Smith. *The Student Writer*. Harper Collins: New York, 1991

- Exchange all the words you normally wouldn't use for words that are more familiar to you.
- Don't use any phrases of more than three words in the same order they appear in the original.
- Change the order of ideas or phrases.

# Provide Evidence

Unless a question asks you specifically for your personal experience or feelings, you will always be required to present evidence from the text you are reading to back up your answer. If you are unsure how to provide evidence, read “Providing Evidence for Your Answers.”

# The Answer

East European Jewish immigration to the United States affected the trade union movement by strengthening it. Almost 120,000 East European Jews immigrated to the United States in 1920-21. Although immigration was severely restricted after this, many of the new immigrants were working class and so became involved in trades like glove, furniture and clothing manufacturing. They also entered trade unions for these jobs and many became leaders of those unions (Bauer 74-76)