

09.05

1. Speed Reading Challenge

- a. Read the entire text silently in no more than 2 minutes.
 - b. Answer these quick comprehension questions **without** looking at the text.
 - c. Which countries are mentioned as examples of rising higher education enrolment?
 - i. What is HECS?
 - ii. What does "study now, pay later" refer to?
 - iii. What concern is raised about increased tuition fees?
 - iv. What potential benefit is mentioned about soft loan schemes?
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2. Paraphrasing Practice

- a. Watch the following video on PARAPHRASING (it is advised that you take down notes while listening for a better comprehension and retention of the content).

 British Council IELTS tips #6: Top five paraphrasing techniques
- b. Paraphrase the following 4 sentences from the text in your own words.
 1. "There is a strong feeling that universities, traditionally made up of small elites, need to ensure that disadvantaged groups get equal access."
 2. "The state sector just does not have the capacity to fund the expansion that is required."
 3. "Participation levels were largely unaffected by the changes, especially among lower-income families."
 4. "Soft loan schemes are more equitable because those who have incurred debts during their studies stand a greater chance of repaying the loans."
- c. Go to the following link <https://wordwall.net/resource/91876063>. Read the sentences and paraphrase them in your own words. Flip the card over to look at a *possible* rewording of the quote.

3. True / False / Not Given Challenge

- a. Read the statements below and decide whether they are **True**, **False**, or **Not Given** based on the text (you can find the KEY on the following page).

Statements:

1. The increase in higher education enrolment has only happened in English-speaking countries.
2. HECS is a loan system used in New Zealand.
3. Some believe that soft loan schemes actually improve fairness in education.
4. Rising university costs have discouraged a large number of students from low-income backgrounds.
5. Governments may reallocate saved funds to earlier stages of education.

Answer Key:

1. **False** – Text says "many countries... from Australia, to South Korea, to Britain, to Canada and to others".
2. **False** – HECS is in Australia, not New Zealand.
3. **True** – Paragraph 4 says some argue these schemes are more equitable.
4. **Not Given** – The text says the evidence is unclear.
5. **True** – Paragraph 5 mentions this explicitly.