Junior Scholastic
SKILLS SHEET

Name:

Date:

Writing an Objective Summary

Sum It Up

KEY STANDARD
RL.6-8.2

An *objective summary* is a paragraph that tells what an article is mainly about. It does not include your opinions. Writing an objective summary of an informational text can show that you've understood what you've read. Read the sample objective summary below, then write your own for the article "Every Vote *Really* Counts."

Sample Objective Summary

NAME THE TEXT: Begin by naming the article/book as well as its author.

SHARE KEY IDEAS: Give only the major points from the text. If you're summarizing a longer text, be sure to consider all of its sections.

In the *JS* article "The Great Immigration Debate" *(pp. 10-15)*, author Patricia Smith explores America's complicated history with immigrants. Since the United States was founded, it has gone through periods of welcoming large numbers of immigrants, as well as times when the number of immigrants allowed in was dramatically reduced—often restricting those from certain countries. The issue has been given renewed focus during President Donald Trump's first year in office. Trump has ramped up arrests and deportations of immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally, while limiting legal immigration and the number of refugees allowed in. Today, supporters of immigrants say they are good for the U.S. economy because many take low-paying jobs that few Americans want, while critics argue that immigrants take jobs from Americans and that those here illegally often commit crimes. With the number of foreign-born Americans projected to grow in the years ahead, the debate is likely to continue. However, some experts say Americans will probably put their fears about immigration aside—as they've done in previous generations.

USE YOUR OWN WORDS: Put ideas in your own words. You don't need to use direct quotes from the text.

KEEP IT SHORT: A typical objective summary of an informational article is about six or seven sentences long.

Now write an objective summary of "Every Vote *Really* Counts" on the lines below.

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