

Paraphrasing Practice

The sentences below are taken from two source texts on the causes and effects of divorce. *In pairs decide on how they could be paraphrased (consider changes to sentence structure as well as vocabulary and word forms). Rewrite each one so that it is clearly paraphrased and avoid close paraphrasing.*

Below are some examples of possible answers. There is more than one way to paraphrase each example.

1) Causes of divorce are those factors that impel an individual or couple to decide to permanently dissolve a marital union.

Divorces are caused by reasons that push either the husband or wife, or both to end their marriage.

2) In most cases, the causes of divorce are complex and are specific to a couple's relationship, their troubles, and their own life experiences.

The majority of divorces are the result of multi-dimensional reasons linked to the couple's relationship, problems and personal experiences.

3) There are a number of specific factors which can influence the likelihood of a couple divorcing.

The chances of a couple ending their marriage are influenced by a multitude of particular reasons.

4) People whose parents are divorced are twice as likely to divorce their own spouses as those whose parents are still together – the implication clearly being that because these individuals have seen and experienced the effects of a marriage which ultimately ended in divorce, this has predisposed them to divorce in their own marriages.

Because children of divorced parents have been exposed to a marriage breakup, they are doubly likely to divorce their partners compared to children of parents who have kept the marriage intact.

5) Though perhaps emotional impact is harder to measure, studies that investigate the emotional effects of divorce often find that women fare better than men, generally because they tend to have stronger support networks to rely on after a major life event.

Despite emotional impact being hard to quantify, studies have determined that women handle the resulting emotions of divorce more effectively than men due to having stronger networks of support.

6) Most teenagers (and their parents) eventually adjust to divorce and regard it as having been a constructive action, but one-third do not. In those instances, the turbulence of the divorce phase (how adversarial a battle it is), has been shown to play a crucial role in creating unhealthy reactions in affected teenagers.

Although the majority of teenagers, and their parents, accept and move on from a divorce because they viewed as a productive move, 33% do not. Those who do not accept the divorce are affected by the troubling moments preceding the divorce resulting in those teenagers reacting in detrimental ways.

O'Connell Corcoran, K. (1997) *Psychological and Emotional Aspects of Divorce*

Accessed: 31st January 2016, from <http://www.mediate.com>