Use research notes for the requested rhetorical goal

Original skill preparation; versioned source scope

Using Research Notes for the Requested Rhetorical Goal

- Use **rhetorical synthesis 修辞综合**: combine notes into one sentence.
- Meet the stated **rhetorical goal 修辞目标** exactly.
- Emphasise a **similarity 相似** or a **contrast 对比** when the goal asks.
- Leave out any **detail 细节** the goal does not need.

Read the goal first

- The question ends with a goal, such as "emphasise a similarity", "present the study to an audience unfamiliar with it" or "explain the advantage of a method".
- Underline its key words. The right option does exactly that.
- Read the notes after the goal, looking for what it needs.

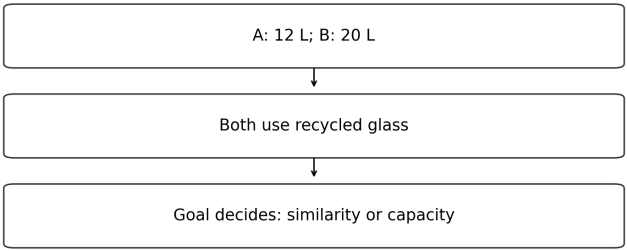
Use only the notes

- **Synthesis** 综合 combines notes; it does not add facts, causes or opinions.
- Watch for options that join two true notes with an unsupported "because" or "so".
- If the notes give totals, do not turn them into counts of separate items.

Matching options to goals

- Similarity: look for "both", "also", "like".
- **Contrast**: look for "whereas", "while", "unlike", "but".
- Introducing to a new audience: the option must explain what the thing is.
- An accurate, well-written option that meets a different goal is wrong.

Figure: Matching options to goals



- Worked steps: A: 12 L; B: 20 L → Both use recycled glass → Goal decides: similarity or capacity
- Match each part of the diagram to the text.

Practice notes

- The Bay project restored 3 km of walking paths in 2024.
- The Hill project restored 5 km of walking paths in 2024.
- Both projects used volunteer teams.

Practice notes (2)

- Bay used local stone for boundary markers.
- Hill used recycled timber for boundary markers.
- The notes give no costs, visitor counts or durability measurements.

Worked example: two goals, two sentences

- Goal: emphasise a similarity in staffing. "Both Bay and Hill used volunteer teams."
- Goal: emphasise the difference in distance. "Hill restored 5 km of walking paths, 2 km more than Bay."
- Goal: **contrast** the marker materials. "Bay used local stone for its boundary markers, whereas Hill used recycled timber." The shared year 2024 is left out, since it does not serve this goal.

Worked example: an unsupported link

- "Because": the notes give no reason for the difference in distance.
- "Lasts longer": the notes give no durability measurements.
- "More paths": the notes give total kilometres, not a number of paths.
- A supported version: "Hill restored a longer total distance and used recycled timber for its markers."

Common errors

- Choosing an accurate option that meets a different goal.
- Adding a cause the notes do not give.
- Including details the goal does not need.

Common errors (2)

- Forgetting to explain a thing when the audience is unfamiliar with it.
- Changing the numbers' meaning, such as kilometres into "paths".

Key terms

- **rhetorical synthesis**: Choosing and combining information from notes to achieve a purpose.
- **rhetorical goal**: The purpose a sentence must achieve, as stated in the question.
- **similarity**: A feature that two things share.
- **contrast**: A difference between two things.

Check yourself

- The goal is "emphasise a difference". Which word suits it: "both" or "whereas"?
- Notes say a museum opened in 1990 and has 2 million visitors a year. Is "The museum is popular because it is old" supported?
- The goal is to introduce a study to readers who do not know it. What must the sentence include?