

Write a Summary

A summary of an article or story shouldn't be funny or extremely detailed. It should be brief and include just the basic facts the reader needs to know. In this activity, we are going to help you write a summary of the article "Deadly Bites," about the 2008 salmonella outbreak. First, you will read 12 sentences about the salmonella outbreak. Then, you will decide which seven are the most important; these belong in your summary. Afterward, you will write a summary of the 2008 salmonella outbreak, based on the information you've chosen.

Directions: Read through the sentences below. Underline the sentences that are most important to the story. There are SEVEN important sentences.

1. Choose the SEVEN statements below that are most important to the story.

After realizing a salmonella outbreak was occurring, scientists in Minnesota interviewed victims to learn more.

Scientists discovered salmonella in a jar of peanut butter at a nursing home where people had been affected.

If passed, a new bill in Congress called the Food Safety Modernization Act of 2009 will overhaul the system that protects us from dangerous food.

Christopher Meunier's temperature reached 103 degrees.

The scientists in Minnesota call themselves "Team Diarrhea."

Hamburgers must be cooked to 150 degrees to kill E. coli.

Nearly 19,000 Americans got sick during the outbreak and eight people died from salmonella.

The contaminated peanut butter was traced to a Peanut Corporation of America plant in Blakely, Georgia.

Pet treats and Keebler crackers were among the recalled foods.

Food poisoning outbreaks can be hard to trace because modern foods contain ingredients from many places.

King Nut peanut butter is sold in seven states.

Over several months, more than 4,000 foods were removed from store shelves.

2. Using the seven important events you've underlined, write a short summary of the 2008 salmonella outbreak.