**Quoting and Paraphrasing Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The direct words of a speaker should be quoted as accurately as possible.**

However, reporters can **paraphrase** (put in other words) any quotation, *as long as the sentence still includes who originally said the information*. Use paraphrasing to fix **confusing** quotations.

1. If the speaker uses expressions like “**uh**,” “**uhm**,” “**eh**,” or other filler that are clearly not part of the intended statement, you may **omit/eliminate** them.
2. If the speaker uses **non-words** (ain’t, finna, gonna, aight, etc.) or creates **ungrammatical** phrase or sentence, you may **correct the language** in small amounts or include **(sic)** with it to show you knew it was incorrect but printed it as it was said. (Large amounts = paraphrase!)
3. Quotations filled with **detailed facts** or overwhelming technical jargon (language specific to a group or profession) should be paraphrased in order to provide readers with more **general terms** or **easier reading**.

Practice: Mark the sentence as A, B, or C (using the exceptions listed above). Then, fix or paraphrase.

\_\_\_\_ 1. School Board President Polly Pennybags: “Ehhhh, well, the program is not really worth

the funding. We just kind of don’t need an underwater basketweaving class in high school.”

\_\_\_\_ 2. Gym teacher Marshall Mathers: “We ain’t never gonna be able to field a winning team

til our players get theirselves new equipment. We was finna do that a long time ago.”

\_\_\_\_ 3. Superintendent: “We are looking at a budget decrease of $7,948,392. Of that figure,

48.7 will be staff layoffs, 19.8 percent will be from building costs, like heating, 16.4 percent from transportation reductions, 10.3 percent will be from school materials, like tissues, and we are still looking how to recover the last 4.8 percent. Any ideas?”

\_\_\_\_ 4. Math teacher Jeff Shoemaker: “Sure there are other things I could do besides teach. But

learnin’ children is a gift. I’m good at it and I enjoy it. No one is unteachable.”

\_\_\_\_ 5. Student council president Elaine Ganz: “It has – um – recently been brought to my attention that – where are my notes? – that only one representative from the junior class

was in attendance, and that was – um – Rachel Murphy – no, Rachel McMurphy.”