**Paraphrasing- How I Show What I Know**  **Name:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Per.**\_\_

**Background**: When you learn science, it is important to find the key ideas in the reading and to explain the ideas in your own words. Writing the ideas into a shorter statement is called ***summarizing.*** Writing the ideas in your own words is called ***paraphrasing***. Paraphrasing well will help you write more clearly. It also helps you remember more of what you read.

When completing Cornell notes in this class, you will need to learn to paraphrase the key ideas you have read. The process starts with you reading about each main idea and highlighting the key ideas while you read. This is the information you will go back and take notes on. Follow the procedure steps to practice taking notes on the “original text” given below.

**Procedure**:

1. Read the two paragraphs below. While you read, highlight (or underline) any important information given on the main idea of “Evaluating Scientific Theories”.
2. To take notes, take what you highlighted and put the information in your own words. Remember, when paraphrasing the information it is OK to combine information from more than one sentence.
3. Read over the paraphrased statement. Does the information you have put together make sense? Is it clear what you are trying to say? Is the information correct?
4. When taking notes use bullets for each paraphrased statement.

**Original Text**:

**Evaluating Scientific Theories**

Scientists are always discovering new information. This new information may show that a theory is incorrect. When this happens, the theory must be changed so that it explains the new information. Sometimes, scientists have to develop a totally new theory to explain the new or old information.

Sometimes, more than one new theory is given to explain the new information. How do scientists know that a new theory is accurate? They use scientific methods to test the new theory. They also examine all the evidence to see if it supports the new theory. Scientists accept a new theory when many tests and pieces of evidence support it.

**Cornell notes (paraphrased information):**

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