Guide to the Thesis Summary Chapter

- Remember that the summary must stand alone. Think of it as a completely separate
 paper. Avoid excessive allusion to figures and tables in the body of the report and
 repeat citations of key references.
- 2. The organization typically repeats that of the body of the thesis.
- Repeat figures, tables or equations from the body of the thesis if they provide
 particularly succinct condensations of the results. consider using simplified versions
 which focus on essential findings.
- 4. The summary usually ends with a reiteration of the major conclusions and recommendations for future work.
- 5. Spend the time necessary to prepare a good summary. Try not to exceed twenty pages of text.
- 6. Keep in mind Pascal's analogy to friend: "I have made this letter longer than usual because I lack the time to make it short."

MIT OpenCourseWare
http://ocw.mit.edu

21G.225 / 21G.226 Advanced Workshop in Writing for Science and Engineering (ELS) Spring 2007

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.