

The Easiest Way to Help Yourself Interpret:

In other words,...

Example:

Swanson also investigates and questions the notion of security in his historical novel. It's an interesting idea to think about, especially for today's young readers who have grown up in an America with a pre-existing Department of Homeland Security --- a world navigated with metal detectors, checkpoints, and smart I.D.'s. In the late 1800s, this was not always the case. Swanson writes, "Incredibly, presidential security was very weak in that era. Almost anyone could walk into the Executive Mansion without being searched and request a brief meeting with the president. It was a miracle that no one had yet tried to murder Lincoln in his own office." **In other words**, perhaps luck had been on Lincoln's side during those final days of the Civil War. It was luck, not procedures, that had prevented a presidential assassination. Destiny, not security personnel, had been the president's saving grace.

Other ways to start your interpretation:

This passage reveals...

To phrase it simply...

One could also say...

Worded differently, this means...

The author is corroborating the age-old adage that...

The author's point is that...

Try it yourself!

Add two to three sentences after the direct quote below. Start the first one with "In other words,..."

In the short story "The Minister's Black Veil," Nathaniel Hawthorne writes "The first glimpse of the clergyman's figure was the signal for the bell to cease its summons." **In other words**,