

Exercises: Chapter 24

These passages address the problem of the redundancy found in students' work in the form of unnecessary words and phrases.

Rewrite the following sentences taking out all the unnecessary words and phrases so that its core meaning can be written more clearly and economically. As you decide what to remove ask yourself whether the word or phrase adds any meaning to the sentence. If it doesn't, remove it.

1. The condition of redundancy

The condition of redundancy that exists in such a great number of themes which are produced by college undergraduates should be eliminated by every means that lies at the disposal of the person who teaches them.

Answer:

The redundancy found in so many college students' themes should be eliminated by every means known to the teacher.¹

2. Herd immunity

In the final analysis, natural herd immunity – achieved as a result of infection rather than vaccination – can be challenging to successfully induce through unchecked infection. In the event there would be an unacceptably high rate of serious illness and death. Health systems as they presently exist would be overwhelmed well beyond their surge capacity, even in high-income countries. This is why herd immunity, as we understand it, is generally pursued through vaccination programmes.

Answer:

Natural herd immunity – achieved through infection rather than vaccination – can be challenging to induce through unchecked infection. There would be an unacceptably high rate of serious illness and death. Health systems would be overwhelmed well beyond their surge capacity, even in high-income countries. This is why herd immunity is generally pursued through vaccination programmes.

¹ Richard D. Altick, *Preface to Critical Reading*, Fifth edition, (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1969), p. 72.