

WRITING

PARAPHRASES

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2008/09

Below are some sentences from Extract III (Attitudes to social services). Rewrite them using your own words and style – i.e. write a paraphrase for each of them:

Lines 1-2: *While most Americans today are successful, independent and provide for themselves, some do not succeed, have varied problems and need help.*



Lines 7-10: *Occasional Gallup opinion polls on the causes of poverty consistently show that one-third of Americans feel that people are poor or become poor due to their own lack of effort; one-third think that people are poor because of circumstances beyond their control; and one-third think that poverty stems from a mixture of both reasons.*



Lines 11-12 & 24-27: *On one level, the social services debate in the US is concerned with the problems of the needy and the poor [...] But the debate is not only about the poor and needy. It also involves the question of whether the US should adopt a nationally organized European-type 'welfare state', which would provide comprehensive social and medical schemes for all, funded out of general taxation.*



Lines 41-43: *Nevertheless, public social services in the US have expanded relatively successfully since the 1930s; absolute poverty has declined; living standards have risen generally; greater public expectations have been created; and social institutions have developed.*



Lines 44-45: *But relative poverty and need still exists and the number of people on welfare has grown since the 1950s.*



Lines 54-55: *Historically, American public social services have expanded in the face of opposition but some recent developments seem to be regressive.*


