**What Does “Restating the Question” Mean and How Can I Do It?**

Here’s what your instructor means by “restating the question” and here is how to do it:

**Question**: What are the three major predators of kangaroos?

**Correctly stated answer**: The three major predators of kangaroos are people, dingoes, and crocodiles.

**Incorrectly stated answer**: People, dingoes, and crocodiles.

In short,

answers should be expressed as complete sentences, but also give background to help clarify the meaning. Imagine a stranger, randomly picking up your work. They should be able to understand the question and the answer without ever having seen the original question.

“People, dingoes, and crocodiles,” as a list of items by itself, could be the answer to other questions, such as “What are three species that should never be locked in a room together?”

If people actually spoke to each other in the way answers with restated questions are written, you might have the following type of conversation:

BILL: How was your weekend?

Emilio: My weekend was fine. Did you watch anything interesting on TV?

BILL: Yes, I did watch something interesting on TV. It was the final episode of Breaking Bad. Did you see it?

Emilio: No, I did not see the final episode of ‘Breaking Bad’. I prefer ‘The Vampire Diaries.’  
BILL: Why do you prefer ‘The Vampire Diaries’?

Emilio: I prefer ‘The Vampire Diaries’ because…

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Restate the following questions with answers you make up.

1. Why do the houses of Planet Uranus have so many extra chimneys?
2. In what town in Washington State do most of the state’s largest and fiercest brown squirrels live?
3. When and where is the annual Festival of the Groundhog held?
4. In Chapter 7 when the bears eat the minister, what does the minister’s wife do to take revenge on them?
5. What was the dog thinking as she saw her master take away her plate of steak and hotdogs?
6. What did Juan think when Jennifer walked past him in the parking lot without saying “hello?”
7. When they stayed up late, Harold and Chen got into trouble. What kind of trouble?
8. How did Ellen manage to get into her third floor apartment without taking the stairs or elevator?
9. Where did he find the college policy on weapons possession on the campus?
10. Tell how Joshua captured the attention of the town’s young women who seemed to all fall under his spell.