**Paraphrasing Activity**

Directions: Complete the Graphic Organizer

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Power of Secret Codes** | **Quote** ***Find one sentence to Quote*** | **Paraphrase*****Paraphrase the entire paragraph*** | **Summarize*****Summarize the entire paragraph*** |
| Secret codes and power go hand-in-hand. Why is this so? Because a code lets one group of people communicate information in a way that keeps it secret from other groups. The group that knows the code has an advantage over the group that doesn’t. |  |  |  |
| Take the example of Julius Caesar, an emperor of ancient Rome who conquered much of Europe and northern Africa. Caesar used letters to communicate his military plans to faraway generals. But what if an opposing army obtained copies of his letters? His plans might be foiled. So Caesar developed a code that only he and trusted members of his army understood. If an enemy intercepted Caesar’s letters, they would not understand them or be able to prepare for his plans. The code gave Caesar an advantage over his opponents, letting him keep and increase his power. |  |  |  |
| Not all codes were as successful as Caesar’s, however. In the 1500s, when Elizabeth I was Queen of England, her half-sister Mary plotted to overthrow her. Mary communicated with her allies through coded messages. However, Mary’s code was easy to crack, so her plan was discovered. If Mary had used a better code, she might have risen to power as the Queen of England. |  |  |  |
| Codes remain important in modern times. During World War II (1939– 1945), German submarines communicated in code so complicated that it was nearly unbreakable. But a brilliant Englishman named Alan Turing cracked the German code. Now that the English knew when and where a British ship would be targeted, they could fight back. When the Germans’ code was broken, they lost a powerful advantage. |  |  |  |
| Secret codes aren’t just about power, of course. It’s fun to develop a code to communicate secrets. But when rulers and armies use codes, they’re not doing so for fun. For them, it’s serious business. |  |  |  |