

1 USEFUL LANGUAGE

Paraphrasing and summarising

a Underline the correct words to complete the conversation.

NILS Hi, Dario. So what's this news you wanted to tell me?
DARIO Well, it really is quite exciting. ¹Generally / Basically, I have decided not to start work just yet.
NILS Not work? But I thought you had a job offer?
DARIO I have but, you know, we've only just graduated and I've been studying, taking exams, revising and so on for years. ²Shortly / In a nutshell, I fancy doing something different and going somewhere new.
NILS ³In other words / Said differently, you're going travelling again.
DARIO But not just for pleasure. I did some reading, talked to some people, did some desk research, sent off some emails and, ⁴to cut things back / to cut a long story short, I'm off to Uganda.
NILS Wow! Africa. To do what?
DARIO Well, I wanted to do something meaningful, you know, help others. Give something back.
NILS Not like people like me then!
DARIO No, ⁵what I meant was / my meaning was that for me it's important to test myself a bit. Get out of the comfort zone. So I'm going to help build a primary school.
NILS A school? That will be amazing! You out in the African heat and me at my hot desk at the bank. That just about sums it up. So when are you off?
DARIO In two weeks. Can't wait. So much to do.
NILS Can I just say ... How shall I put this? I'm very proud.

b  Listen and check.

c Complete the sentences with the words in the box.
There may be more than one possible answer.

in-a-nutshell to put it another way that is to say
in other words to cut a long story short what I meant was

- 1 My job is quite difficult to explain but in a nutshell, I help companies find solutions.
- 2 How did I end up here in China? Well, _____, I got a part-time job here twenty years ago.
- 3 People who eat their five a day, _____ fruit and vegetables, probably stay fitter.
- 4 Sorry, but that's not my point – _____ that the young should support the old.
- 5 People waste so much money on clothes, takeaways, music ... _____ stuff they don't need.
- 6 Even the BRIC countries, _____ Brazil, India, Russia and China, are struggling.