

“Less is More!”
Achieving clarity of text in an exhibit- modified example
(Courtesy Minnesota History Day)

When writing text for an exhibit it is necessary to take complex ideas and explain them in short, clear paragraphs. The paragraph below contains 103 words. In the space provided, try to communicate the most important elements of the paragraph using 40-50 words.

Throughout the 1930s and 40s Jewish doctors faced discrimination at Minneapolis hospitals. They found it virtually impossible to get hired and serve their patients. This situation created a health care problem for the Jews of Minneapolis. Community leaders continued to press for equal employment opportunities for Jewish doctors, but also sought an interim solution to provide needed medical resources. In 1951 Mount Sinai Hospital was constructed near downtown Minneapolis. Mount Sinai provided employment for Jewish doctors who were not allowed to practice in most Minneapolis hospitals. This is an example of a compromise in response to the ongoing prejudice against Jews in Minneapolis. (103 words).

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A key example of compromise in response to discrimination was the construction of Mount Sinai Hospital in 1951. Its creation was a successful effort to provide employment for Jewish doctors who were not allowed to practice in most Minneapolis hospitals.* (40 words)

*This text was taken from a Sr. Individual Exhibit entitled, “Restricted: The Struggle Against Anti-Semitism in Minneapolis,” by Hannah Steinberg of South High School in Minneapolis. This exhibit was completed in 1996 when the National History Day theme was, “Conflict and Compromise in History.”