**Synthesis video transcript**

To synthesise means to bring together diverse elements to construct a new meaning or idea

Synthesis is an important skill to foster as a health or social work professional.

In practice, you must gather together information about a patient or service user in order to make judgements about the necessary treatment and management.

It is vital that the full spectrum of information available is considered or your judgement could be impaired.

The appropriateness of your thoughts and considerations will be based on your bank of knowledge and skills.

Sometimes, this means that you will need to do additional research to decide the best way forward.

In the end, you may need to convince the service user and others of the reasoning behind your decisions.

In writing, you need to show that you have read what other professionals in the field and established academics have found as a result of their reliable and unbiased research.

This may mean that you pool together information from several sources that agree on a topic and integrate this into your writing, being careful not to change their meaning, content or message.

In doing this, you support your ideas and, possibly draw attention to something that may not have been noticed before or is particularly significant in the context.

Synthesis may mean that you join together sources that agree on a point and then compare and contrast these with other sources that may disagree with that. This can also help you to prove your point.

However, be careful not just to offer the ideas of others without drawing them together and stating what significance they hold for your argument.

In other words, you bring together different sources to serve an argument or idea you are constructing.

This is your invitation to evaluate, make logical or new connections between sources, to offer a fresh perspective on a subject and create new ideas.

Synthesising the information from various sources is an important skill and can gain you additional marks in your writing, especially at level 7.