

Plagiarism: What You Need To Know





1. Copying the words of someone else without citation is Plagiarism, but ideas cannot be plagiarized.

A. True

B. False



2. “Unintentional plagiarism” does not exist.

A. True

B. False



3. You copy and use a drawing that you found in a book for a paper, you must cite the source because the drawing is an idea.

A. True

B. False



Defining Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of someone else's work without giving proper acknowledgement.



What are some of the different types of plagiarism?



4. If you use an idea you found in a journal article, there is no need to cite the idea if you paraphrase it.

A. True

B. False



5. If an author of a book presents your own opinion better than you could express it, then it's fine to copy those words into your paper without quotation marks or citation.

A. True

B. False



6. You may summarize the general points of a book into a paragraph using your own words, but you still need to cite the source.

A. True

B. False



Paraphrasing

To restate the ideas in your words – and include a full citation

- The paraphrase of a sentence is about the same length as the original sentence – just in your own words.
- Paraphrasing should be used sparingly, balance the thoughts of scholars and your original ideas
- Avoid “patchworking” or a paper that is mostly or entirely paraphrases from other authors



Please paraphrase the following passage:

Founded in 1770, the College of Charleston is the oldest educational institution south of Virginia, and the 13th oldest in the United States. During the colonial period, wealthy families sent their sons abroad for higher education. By the mid-18th century, many leading citizens supported the idea of establishing an institution of higher learning within the colony. On January 30, 1770, Lieutenant Governor William Bull recommended to the colony's general assembly the establishment of a provincial college. However, internal disagreements, political rivalries and the American Revolution delayed progress on this front. After the war, South Carolinians returned their attention to establishing a college. On March 19, 1785, the College of Charleston was chartered to "encourage and institute youth in the several branches of liberal education."



Summarizing

What happened on the latest episode of The Office? What was covered in class yesterday?

Summarizing is something that we do on a daily basis, but what differentiates it from paraphrasing?

- Restate the author's idea in your own words, but use fewer words
- Avoid interjecting your own analysis or opinions
- Provide a citation every time you summarize



Practice Summarizing

Please summarize one of the following movies:

- Shrek
- Wizard of Oz
- Forrest Gump
- Back to the Future
- Titanic
- Slumdog Millionaire
- Napoleon Dynamite



7. In a research paper, it is a good idea to cite every fact that is not your own, such as the day man landed on the moon.

A. True

B. False



8. Information you find on the Web is considered common knowledge, which means it can be used without citation.

A. True

B. False



9. There is no need to cite common knowledge, unless you use the exact words of the source.

A. True

B. False



Citing Facts/Common Knowledge

- Facts that are considered 'common knowledge' - those that a reasonably well-educated person could be expected to know – do not need to be cited in your paper.
- More obscure facts and statistics will need to be documented with a citation.



10. As long as you cite the author's name in the text of the paragraph, you are free to use the author's words verbatim, without using quotation marks or a block indentation.

A. True

B. False



Direct Quotations

- Quotations can spice up a paper, tie your thoughts to a text, and provide concrete examples
- You should use direct quotations sparingly, choosing them carefully to make an impression, avoid “patchworking”
- A quotation can be very short or an entire paragraph or passage



For more information on plagiarism:

<http://libguides.library.cofc.edu/english110>

Common Citation Styles to consider:

- MLA
- APA
- Chicago



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