Smart Start: Plagiarism & Citation

Be smart and don’t plagiarize

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Which is a lie?

1. A librarian helps you with citations
2. A librarian needs a master’s degree
3. A librarian reads books all day
Which is a lie? Plagiarism is...

1. using words or ideas from someone else without giving credit

2. giving your opinion without evidence to support it

3. giving incorrect information about the source by mistake
“Plagiarism means using the **words** or **ideas** of another person as if they were your own, and without giving **proper credit** to the sources you have used.”
Possible penalties for plagiarism include:

- A warning
- Rewriting of an assignment
- Reduced mark on the assignment
- A mark of zero for the course
- Suspension or dismissal
Example assignment

Write a 1500-1800 word analytical research paper (5 pages) relating the information you gather about your topic to *Hamlet*. Use at least 4 academic sources including print sources and online library resources. Format and cite your paper **in the MLA style**.
Citation: A (Very) Brief Introduction
What is citing?

Citing (also known as referencing) is the practice of acknowledging in your paper the sources from which you obtained information.

The citations tell your reader where you found the information you are using. By citing your sources you are acknowledging that the words or ideas are borrowed, not your own.
What do you cite?

- You must provide a citation for any **facts, ideas, or data** which you took from another source.
- You also have to provide a citation for any **images, graphs, maps, sound files, etc.** unless you created them yourself.
- The only time you do not need to cite is when the fact or idea is “**common knowledge,**” eg:
  - William Shakespeare is the author of *Hamlet*.
  - Donald Trump is the president of the United States of America.
Quiz Time

Raise your hand if you know the answer. If you answer correctly, you get a prize!
Q1

You find a neat idea in an article, so you use it in your paper. You don't need to cite the source of the idea because you've expressed it in your own words. True or false?

False
Q2

You need an image for your presentation. You go online and find one, but you don't see a photographer or a publication date listed. It means that the image is copyright free, so you don't need to cite it. True or false?

False.
Q3

You pay a tutor for editing assistance, and he rewrites some paragraphs and adds some new ideas. You hand in this new edited version to your professor. Is this plagiarism?

Yes.
You asked a friend to look over your essay to correct mistakes in spelling and grammar. You hand in this new edited version to your professor. Is this plagiarism?

No.
Q5

Which of the following statements do you have to cite?

1. Internet Explorer is a lot of fun because you can find interesting information
2. Internet Explorer has a 96% browser market share as of June 2000
3. Internet Explorer is a commonly used web browser
4. Bill Gates is the man who founded the Microsoft company

#2
How do you cite?

Every style requires you to cite in two places:

1. In the body of your essay
2. In a list at the end of the essay

You cite your sources by providing the identifying information about each source such as the author, publication date and so on.
In the body of your essay

Parenthetical References (eg. APA)

EXAMPLE:
In *Media Mania* the author argues that “parents, teachers and peers are a more powerful influence on children than television” (MacKay, 2002, p. 36).

The complete citation material (author, publication year, and page number) is found in the parentheses.
In the body of your essay

Endnotes or Footnotes (eg. Chicago)

This is an example of in-text citation for the purposes of demonstrating the correct format to be used for Chicago referencing.¹ In-text citation is “important to acknowledge the work of others”.²

¹ Margherita Letizia, Example Footnote in the Chicago Style (Melbourne: Monash University, 2016), 13.
² Letizia, Example Footnote, 14.
Direct quotes vs paraphrases

1. Use the exact words with quotation marks “ ” (direct quote)

One researcher emphasized that “the ability to think critically is needed in this revolutionary age of technological change” (Lee, 2007, p. 82).

2. Use your own words to express the same idea (paraphrase)

One researcher pointed out the necessity of critical thinking to cope with rapidly changing technology (Lee, 2007).
In a list at the end of the essay
Creating accurate citations starts at the note-taking stage. Although every citation style is different, there are some standard elements to record:

• Title
• Author
• Publication Date
• Publisher or source
• Start and end pages (for articles and book chapters)
• The URL (online)
HELP IS AVAILABLE!
RESEARCH HELP DESK

Monday – Friday
9 am – 5 pm
Quiz Time

Raise your hand if you know the answer. If you answer correctly, you get a prize!
Q1

When you copy a sentence directly from an article in your paper, what do you need to do to show they are not your own words?

You need to use quotation marks
Q2

Where do you need to cite your sources in a paper?

In the body of your paper (in-text) and in a list at the end of the paper (reference list)
Q3

What are the two ways you can incorporate your sources?

1. Direct quotes
2. Paraphrases
Q4

List one of the places you can get help with citations.

Library website: Citation Guides
Research Help Desk
AskAway online chat
After this session, do you feel more confident that you know how to avoid plagiarism?

Yes!
Ask for Help

Research Help Desk
- Get help with finding resources & citations
- Drop by anytime
- Mon-Fri: 10-4

Learning Centre
- Get one-on-one help with your writing
- Drop in or by appointment
- Mon-Fri: 8-4

AskAway Online Chat
- Get help online with your research & citations
- Weekend & evening hours
- Access on the library website homepage
Thanks!

Any questions?
You can find me at etung@okanagan.bc.ca
Sources

- OC Library Avoid Plagiarism Tutorial
- SFU Library Plagiarism Tutorial
- Sheridan Library Academic Integrity guide
- Rochester Academic Honesty Quiz