

Plagiarism Quiz

1. Plagiarism or not? You decide ...

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

Yes, it's plagiarism.

No, it isn't.

2. Plagiarism or not? You decide ...

You copy a short passage from an article you found. You change a couple of words, so that it's different than the original – this way you don't need quotation marks. You carefully cite the source.

Yes, it's plagiarism.

No, it isn't.

3. Which of the following statements is FALSE?

- (a) Citing your sources protects you from committing plagiarism by acknowledging that specific information in your paper has been taken from another source.
- (b) You don't have to cite the source for a fact in your paper if it's something that most people would already know.
- (c) There are many different citation styles, and you must find out which one your professor prefers.
- (d) It is not necessary to cite sources found on the web.

4. Choose the best answer below to complete this sentence:

When you are doing research for a paper, good note-taking techniques will protect you from plagiarism ...

- (a) ... by proving to your professor that you've done lots of reading.
- (b) ... by ensuring you know the source of each fact in your notes and you can clearly distinguish between your own ideas versus points taken from your sources.
- (c) ... but only if you are taking notes by hand.
- (d) ... by requiring you to copy out long passages exactly from the source.

5. Paraphrase or patchwriting? You decide ...

Original passage:

The Coca-Cola Co. is testing a new vending machine that lets thirsty consumers buy a Coke by dialing a phone number located on the machine near the coin slot. Dial the number and out pops your pop. The wireless phone account is charged for the soda. Students and staff at the Institute of Technology in Helsinki are using the prototype. Coke says it is waiting to see how the phone-ready vending machine fares there before possibly rolling it out elsewhere, maybe even in the U.S." (Pappas, 1999, p. 45).

Is this an acceptable paraphrase?

The Coca-Cola Company has developed a prototype vending machine that allows people to use their cell phone to order a soft drink. Customers can charge their desired beverage to their wireless phone account by simply calling the telephone number posted on the machine. Coca-Cola is currently testing their invention in Finland with students and staff at the Institute of Technology in Helsinki. If the trials are successful, Coca-Cola is considering introducing its invention into American and international markets. (Pappas, 1999, p. 45)

Yes, it's an acceptable paraphrase.

No, this is patchwriting.

