Chapter Four - Academic Integrity

Academic integrity

In 1999, the International Center for Academic Integrity identified five positive traits as core values of academic integrity. They were honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility.

What do these fundamental values mean to you as a college student?

Write one or two sentences about each one.

1) honesty

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2) trust

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3) fairness

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4) respect

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5) responsibility

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In 2013, courage was added to the list. What does courage mean to you as a college student?

6) courage

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Now read your sentences in groups of three or four.
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What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is the act, whether it be intentional or not, of taking another person's work or ideas that leads people to believe that the work or ideas are one's own. Intentional acts of plagiarism include buying an academic paper, or falsification or fabrication of data. Unintentional acts of plagiarism are due to ignorance and include failing to attribute a source (even one's own), and misattribution.

Why do people plagiarize?

Some people plagiarize because they are ambitious and want a good grade. Others procrastinate and plagiarize when a deadline is looming. A few people copy because they lack confidence in their own writing. The most common reason for plagiarism, however, is ignorance of what plagiarism is and not knowing how to avoid it.

How to avoid plagiarism

Ideally, you should start your assignment as early as possible. Bookmark online resources that you refer to in a designated folder, and keep notes about what you read in an organized file or log book. When you write your paper, it should be very clear to the reader what ideas belong to others, because you cite them properly, and what opinions are your own because of the absence of attribution.

What information do I need to include in a citation within my text?

In order to cite other people's work, you should remember to include the following three pieces of information in the text of your paper:

- The author's family name
- The year when it was published
- A direct quotation of the author's exact words including quotation marks (and a page number if citing a printed source), or a paraphrase or a summary of the original work in your own words

A brief introduction to APA style

If you submit your paper for publication, you will be asked to format your article in a specific way, and there are several styles all of which have their own different and conflicting formats.

This textbook will refer to only one style, APA, the style of the American Psychological Association (2009). APA, like other editorial styles, consists of rules or guidelines that ensure a clear and consistent presentation format of written material within an academic journal. Here is an example of a direct quotation and a paraphrase in APA style:

Direct quotation: Crick states that “it is notoriously difficult to define the word living” (1966, p. 3).

Paraphrase: Defining the word living is by no means an easy thing to do (Crick, 1966).

What is the difference between a direct quotation and a paraphrase?

How would you paraphrase the direct quotation by Crick above? Use APA format.
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What is considered as plagiarism?

The following are all examples of plagiarism:
1. You write an idea, without attribution, that is not your own original idea.
2. You copy a sentence or phrase without attributing the original author.
3. You copy a sentence or phrase with attribution, but change a few words for synonyms.
4. You copy a sentence or sentences, with attribution, but change the order of the phrases.
5. Your paraphrase, with attribution, has a long string of words identical to the original.

What is not plagiarism?

The following would not be considered as examples of plagiarism:

a You copy a phrase, sentence, or sentences, include quotation marks, and cite the original author, date of publication and page number (for offline sources).
b You paraphrase or summarize an author’s original idea in your own words, and cite the author and date of publication.
c You write something which is accepted as common knowledge.

Acceptable citation practice

Original quotation

We can invest enormous time and energy in serious efforts to know another person, but in the end, how close can we come to that person’s essence? We convince ourselves that we know the other person well, but do we really know anything important about anyone?

Check the box if you think that the citation is accurate and acceptable.

1. ☐ We can devote colossal time and energy in genuine efforts to know another person, but finally, how close can we come to that person’s nature? (Murakami, 1998)

2. ☐ We convince ourselves that we know the other person well, but we don’t really. We invest time and energy in efforts to know someone, but finally we know nothing (Murakami, 1998).

3. ☐ Murakami states that even though we try our best to know someone, in the end we can never really know a person’s true spirit, even if we believe that we do (1998).

4. ☐ “We can invest enormous time and energy in serious efforts to know another person, but in the end, how close can we come to that person’s essence?” (Murakami, 1998, p. 54).

5. ☐ Murakami claims that we can convince ourselves that we know the other person well, but do we really know anything important about anyone? (1998).

6. ☐ “We can invest enormous time and energy in serious efforts to know another person, but in the end, how close can we come to that person’s essence?” (1998, p. 54).
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Direct quotation citation practice

If you were to cite a direct quotation, in part or in full for an academic paper, how would you do it? Remember to include quotation marks, the author’s family name, the year, and the page number.

1) From page 525 of J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, published in 2000. If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals.

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2) From page 1 of Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*, originally published in 1813, and republished in 2008. The version you are citing from is the one published in 2008. It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.

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3) From page 17 of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s 1925 novel, *The Great Gatsby*, republished in 2004. The version you are citing from is the modern one. I hope she’ll be a fool — that’s the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool.

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In groups, show each other your direct quotation citations. Are they in APA format?

Paraphrase

When you paraphrase, you should try to reflect the original idea of the author as close as possible by using your own words. The length of a paraphrase should be similar in word count to the original. Remember to include the author’s family name and year in parentheses in your citation. You do not use quotation marks, since you are paraphrasing, and a page number is not necessary since you are not quoting directly.
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Paraphrase citation practice

From page 10 of Barack Obama’s, *The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*.

I believe in evolution, scientific inquiry, and global warming; I believe in free speech, whether politically correct or politically incorrect, and I am suspicious of using government to impose anybody’s religious beliefs — including my own — on nonbelievers.

Show your paraphrase to a partner. Is it a legitimate APA in-text citation?

Summary as paraphrase

A summary is similar to a paraphrase because the writing is one’s own words. The difference between a summary and a paraphrase is that a summary is much shorter than the original. For example, you might summarize an academic paper or a novel in one paragraph, or one paragraph of an article or a story in one sentence.

Review

There are three different ways of citing another person’s ideas in academic writing. They are by direct quotation, paraphrase, or summary. In groups, review each one.

References

Every in-text citation should be matched with a full reference at the end of your paper. Below are the references for this chapter’s citations. What do you notice about them? Discuss with a partner or within your group.

References


Chapter Four - Summarize a Novel

Summarize a novel

Choose any novel written in English. (You should bring your book to class for Chapter 5). Perhaps it is one that you have already read. Write your summary in the present tense. When and where does the story take place? What is it about? Who are the main characters? What happens, how, and why?

At the end of your summary, write the author’s family name, and the year of publication in parentheses. (You can usually verify the year of publication of a book under publishing history at the beginning of the book).

Write your opinion in the following paragraph.

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