

## Plagiarism Quiz with RJ's Answers

1. Which of the following is considered plagiarism? [Choose all that apply]

- A. Change a few words in a sentence and use it as your own.
- B. Quote a unique phrase if you give the original author credit.
- C. Piece together ideas from more than one source without citing them.
- D. Submit a paper you bought online.
- E. Use someone else's ideas in your paper as long as you cite the source.

**Answer:**

- A – This is a failed attempt to paraphrase.
- C – You must cite all of your sources of words and ideas.
- D – Obviously.

2. When do you need to cite copied sections of someone else's work? [Choose all that apply]
- A. It is from a scholarly research article.
  - B. Your friend wrote it.
  - C. It is common knowledge.
  - D. It is your analysis of the original work.

**Answer:**

This question is a little tricky. If “copied sections” means that words are copied, then A, B, and C all apply: quote marks and citations must be used.

More generally, A and B must be cited if you are using ideas you found in those sources. You do not need to cite instances of common knowledge unless you actually copied words. You do not need to provide citations for your original words and ideas.

Please remember, no quoting is allowed in the TU110 essay assignment.

3. When is it acceptable to use multimedia, such as charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or audio files in your paper or class presentation?
- A. You found them in your textbook for class.
  - B. You found them on the Internet.
  - C. They illustrate a point in your paper.
  - D. You cite the original source.

**Answer:**

This is a tricky question since the question does not say who created the multimedia. Assuming that you did not create the multimedia, the correct answers would be C and D.

You should not need to use such materials for the TU110 essay.

For the TU110 group project, you need to ask permission to use video clips from outside sources. If you get permission, the sources should be cited in the transcript.

4. It may be considered academic dishonesty to turn the same paper into two different courses without permission.

- A. True, it may be academic dishonesty.
- B. False, it is never academic dishonesty.

**Answer:**

A – Unless you ask for permission, almost all teachers consider it academic dishonesty to use a paper more than one time.

5. Which of the following are possible penalties for plagiarism at San José State University?
- A. Failing an assignment.
  - B. Failing a course.
  - C. Being expelled from school.
  - D. All of the above.

**Answer:**

According to the tutorial, A and B are the correct answers.

6. Under certain circumstances it is acceptable to buy or borrow a paper and turn it in as your own.

- A. True
- B. False

**Answer:**

B – It is never acceptable.

7. Which of the following best describes acceptable paraphrasing?

- A. Synthesizing the original passage and writing it in your own words.
- B. Changing the sentence order of the original passage.
- C. Replacing certain words from the original passage.
- D. Rewriting the original passage.

**Answer:**

A is the correct answer. You need to understand the material before you attempt to paraphrase it. After you know the material by heart, then you can write it in your own words.

8. Which of the following is the best reason to use direct quotes and paraphrases?

- A. To support your own ideas.
- B. To communicate what you mean better than you think you can.
- C. To explain complicated ideas to your instructor.

**Answer:**

A is the correct answer. Of course, no quoting is allowed in the TU110 essay assignment.

9. Which of the following is never part of a citation? [Choose all that apply]

- A. Author's last name.
- B. Title of the article or book.
- C. Title of the journal.
- D. Author's date of birth.
- E. Page numbers.

**Answer:**

D is the correct answer. The purpose of the citation is to allow the reader to find the source of your information. Knowing the author's birthday is not useful in that regard.

10. Which of the following need to be cited? [Choose all that apply]

- A. A web site from which you got an idea for your paper.
- B. A quote from your favorite TV show that you used in your paper.
- C. Your interpretation of a book/article you read.
- D. A talk your friend gave that you used in your paper.

**Answer:**

A, B, and D all require citations.

11. What, if anything, is wrong with the following paraphrase?

**Original Passage from:**

Lebo, Harlan. *The Godfather Legacy*. New York: Fireside, 1997.

Superficially, *The Godfather* was a pulp novel about sex, violence, and crime in America's gangland underworld. But at its core were solid storytelling and vivid characters.

**Paraphrase:**

The *Godfather* seemed to be a pulp novel about sex, violence, and crime in the American mafia. On a deeper level, the novel is a tightly woven epic story of life with dynamic characters (Lebo 5).

- A. Did not cite the original source.
- B. A portion of the paraphrase is a direct quote and should be in quotations.
- C. Follows the original passage too closely.
- D. All of the above.
- E. Nothing is wrong with this passage.

**Answer:**

B and C are the correct answers. Many words are copied directly and the paraphrase attempt is just a slight rewrite of the original two sentences.

The source is cited, although not in the style that you will use for the TU110 essay.

12. What, if anything, is wrong with the following paraphrase?

**Original Passage from:**

Fox, S., Rainie, L. (2002). Vital decisions: How internet users decide what information to trust when they or their loved ones are sick. Retrieved July 26, 2006 from Pew Internet & American Life Project Web site:  
[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Vital\\_Decisions\\_May2002.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Vital_Decisions_May2002.pdf)

Experts say that Internet users should check a health site's sponsor, check the date of the information, set aside ample time for a health search, and visit four to six sites. In reality, most health seekers go online without a definite research plan. The typical health seeker starts at a search site, not a medical site, and visits two to five sites during an average visit.

**Paraphrase:**

For medical web sites it is recommended that users should check the sponsor and date of each site. They should make sure they have plenty of time and look at up to six sites (but at least four). Actually, most people searching medical web sites don't plan what they're going to do. They usually go to a search engine first and then a couple of web sites—five at the most (Fox & Rainie, 2002, p. 4).

- A. Did not cite the original source.
- B. A portion of the paraphrase is a direct quote and should be in quotations.
- C. Follows the original passage too closely.
- D. All of the above.
- E. Nothing is wrong with this passage.

**Answer:**

The correct answer is C. Each sentence is rewritten in the same order as found in the original.

If you read them closely, you will also see that the paraphrase attempt significantly distorted the original information as well.

13. Read the original passage and paraphrase it. Don't forget to cite the original source and include any unique phrases in quotations.

This **original passage** is from a web article about the Hubble Telescope:

Tenenbaum, D. (2002). Hubble's greatest hits. Retrieved July 28, 2006, from The Why Files: <http://whyfiles.org/151hubble/index.html>

Seriously, Hubble may be the best \$2 billion NASA ever spent. From its position in orbit high above the atmosphere, Hubble has produced astonishing images and data on black holes, star formation and destruction, and even the early universe. It's fair to say Hubble has revolutionized astronomy (Tenenbaum, 2002).

**Answer:**

There are infinite ways to paraphrase this statement.

A proper paraphrase synthesizes the original passage in your own words and your own words are always unique.