QUIZ YOURSELF:
HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CITING SOURCES?

PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Which of the following examples describe violations of academic integrity? Check all the examples that are punishable under University rules.

___ 1. You buy a term paper from a website and turn it in as your own work.
___ 2. You ask a friend to write a paper for you.
___ 3. You can't find the information you need, so you invent statistics, quotes, and sources that do not exist and cite these in your paper as if they were real.
___ 4. Your professor requires you to use five sources, but you found one book written by one person that has all the information you need, so you cite that book as if it were information coming from other books and authors in order to make it look as if you used five different sources.
___ 5. Your history professor and your political science professor both assign a term paper. To save time, you write one paper that meets both requirements and hand it in to both professors.
___ 6. You don't want to have too many quotes in your paper, so you do not put quotation marks around some sentences you copied from a source. You cite the source correctly at the end of the paragraph and in your bibliography.
___ 7. You copied a long passage from a book into your paper, and you changed some of the wording around. You cite the source at the end of the passage and again in the bibliography.
___ 8. While writing a long research paper, you come across an interesting hypothesis mentioned in a book, and you incorporate this hypothesis into your main argument. After you finish writing the paper, you can't remember where you initially found the hypothesis, so you don't bother to cite the source of your idea.

COMMON KNOWLEDGE

Common knowledge is information that is widely known within a society or an intellectual community; therefore, if you include common knowledge in your paper, you do not need to cite where you found that information.

Answer Yes or No to the following questions:

1. In a high school class on American government, you learned about the checks-and-balances system of government, which separates power into the judicial, executive, and legislative branches. Now you are writing a paper for an introductory political science class, and you mention the concept of checks and balances you learned in high school. Should you cite your old high school textbook? _____
2. In writing a paper about pop culture in the 1980s, you want to include the year that Reagan was shot, but you cannot remember if it was 1980 or 1981, so you look up the correct date in an encyclopedia. Do you have to include that encyclopedia as a source for the date on which Reagan was shot? _____

3. You do most of your research online and find lots of interesting websites, from which you quote several passages. After you write the first draft, you ask your older and more experienced roommate if he knows how to cite websites. He says that websites are in the public domain and constitute common knowledge; therefore, they do not need to be cited. Is this true? _____

4. In writing a research paper on astrophysics, you come across something called the Eridanus effect several times. You have never heard of this effect nor discussed it in your class, but after reading about it in six different astrophysics journal articles (where it is not cited), you have a pretty clear idea of what it is and its most common characteristics. Is the Eridanus effect common knowledge within astrophysics? _____

5. Your older sister has a job working for a nonprofit organization that runs adult literacy programs in factories and unemployment centers in several major cities. Over winter break, she tells you about the success of one of the programs in St. Louis and the innovative curricula it has designed. Several weeks into spring semester, you remember your conversation as you are writing an economics term paper on empowerment zones and unemployment in the inner city. If you include a description of the program, do you need to cite a source, even if it is just your sister? _____

6. You are writing a paper on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Your textbook's introduction to the play mentions that Shakespeare was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. You mention these facts in your paper's introduction. Do you need to cite the introduction to your textbook? _____

7. You are writing a paper on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. A footnote in your textbook mentions that some literary historians now believe Shakespeare himself played the ghost when the play was first performed. If you mention Shakespeare playing the ghost, do you need to cite this footnote from your textbook? _____

8. You are writing a paper on the assassination of Robert Kennedy. The three major biographies on him mention when he was killed and by whom. Do you have to cite all these biographies when you mention the date and murderer of RFK? _____

9. You are writing a paper on the assassination of Robert Kennedy. The most influential biography on him mentions a controversial conspiracy theory first put forward in the early 1970s by a journalist for the *Washington Post*. When you mention this conspiracy theory, should you cite the biography? _____
QUOTING, PARAPHRASING, & SUMMARIZING TEXTS

Read the following passage excerpted from an online edition of a foreign policy magazine. Determine whether any of the sample sentences that follow are improperly cited within the sentence or plagiarized.

The illegal trade in drugs, arms, intellectual property, people, and money is booming. Like the war on terrorism, the fight to control these illicit markets pits governments against agile, stateless, and resourceful networks empowered by globalization. Governments will continue to lose these wars until they adopt new strategies to deal with a larger, unprecedented struggle that now shapes the world as much as confrontations between nation-states once did.


Read the following passages and mark OK if the passage is fine. If the passage is plagiarized, improperly paraphrased, or otherwise cited inadequately, mark it with X.

1) In his essay on "The Five Wars of Globalization," Moisés Naím argues that governments need to find new ways to handle the kinds of borderless illegal activity increasing under globalization.

2) In describing the "illegal trade in drugs, arms, intellectual property, people, and money" as "booming," Moisés Naím asserts that governments need to adopt new strategies to deal with this unprecedented struggle that now shapes the world (http://www.foreignpolicy.com).

3) Like the war on terror, the struggle to control illegal trade in drugs, arms, money, etc., pits governments against cunning, stateless, and enterprising networks empowered by globalization (Moises, 2003).

4) Many experts believe that globalization is changing the face of foreign policy.
Read the following passage from a book on romance novels and soap operas, then read the citations from it that follow to determine whether any are plagiarized or improperly cited within the sentence.

The complexity of women's responses to romances has not been sufficiently acknowledged. Instead of exploring the possibility that romances, while serving to keep women in their place, may at the same time be concerned with real female problems, analysts of women's romances have generally seen the fantasy embodied in romantic fiction either as evidence of female "masochism" or as a simple reflection of the dominant masculine ideology. For instance Germaine Greer, referring to the idealized males of women's popular novels, says, "This is the hero that women have chosen for themselves. The traits invented for him have been invented by women cherishing the chains of their bondage." But this places too much blame on women, and assumes a freedom of choice which is not often in evidence—not in their lives and therefore certainly not in their popular arts.


Read the following and passages and mark **OK** if the passage is fine as is. If the passage is plagiarized in part or whole or is otherwise cited improperly, mark it with **X**.

1) Tania Modleski claims that Germaine Greer oversimplifies why women read romance novels (38).

2) Modleski states that although romance novels may keep women in their place, they also address real female problems (37).

3) Feminist critics see the fantasy embodied in romance novels either as evidence of female "masochism" or as a simple reflection of male chauvinism (Modleski 37-38).

4) One feminist writer, Germaine Greer, says that the idealized male featured in women's popular romance novels "is the hero that women have chosen for themselves. The traits invented for him have been invented by women cherishing the chains of their bondage." (38).

5) Tania Modleski rejects the idea that the fantasies expressed in romance novels are merely a reflection of some innate masochism in women who, in the words of Germaine Greer, "cherish…the chains of their bondage" (Modleski 37-38; Greer qtd. in Modleski 38).
MISCELLANEOUS

1) What is NOT the proper way to document a website in a list of footnotes, references, or works cited?

   d) (http://www.epa.gov/ord/sciencenews/scinews_trees-and-air-pollution.htm)
   e) Trick question: websites are in the public domain and do not need to be cited.

2) If your paper includes a quotation from Wikipedia, do you need to cite it?
   a) Yes, but because Wikipedia is an online source, you don’t need to include the article in your footnotes, references, or works cited. Instead, you can simply provide the Web address in parentheses.
   b) Yes, just as you would need to cite another quotation taken from an outside source. Even if the information in the article is common knowledge, you must still cite a direct quotation and place it in quotation marks.
   c) Yes, but only because you include a direct quotation. The information on Wikipedia (unlike its actual language) is in the public domain and need not be cited.
   d) No; both the information and the language on Wikipedia are in the public domain and need not be cited.

3) If you use a quote found in a book of quotes or from an online compilation of quotes, such as Bartlett’s, how do you cite the quote?
   a) You don't—quotes found in a collection of quotations (whether online or in a book) are considered well known and in the public domain. Just include the name of the person to whom the quote is attributed. You can also add the date if it seems relevant.
   b) You should cite the original source of the quote followed by the bibliographic information from the quotation compilation, such as: Shakespeare, William. A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Quoted in Familiar Quotations: Being an Attempt to Trace to Their Sources Passages and Phrases in Common Use, by John Bartlett (Boston: Little, Brown, 1886), 44. Print.
   c) You should find the original source and cite that.
   d) All the above: A is correct, and B and C are possible options if you want to be extra careful or if the quote is extremely important to your paper. Use your common sense in this situation.