

Academic Writing

Lesson 7
In other words... paraphrasing and summarising

plagiarism

- ◉ Plagiarism is the unacknowledged copying of another's work.
 - It doesn't matter if it's intentionally done or not: it's still plagiarism
- ◉ Copying means
 - Using the same words (terms and descriptions) to talk about the same concepts/facts
 - Discussing the same points
 - Keeping the same order of presentation of ideas
 - Failing to add to or comment on the content

plagiarism

TASK 1

- ◉ Read the original passage on Hamlet, then read the three plagiarised passages
- ◉ All three are examples of plagiarism!
 - Do you understand *why*?
 - What features make them plagiarised?

plagiarism

- ◉ **Example 1**
- ◉ Aside from an opening sentence loosely adapted from the original and reworded more simply, **this entire passage is taken almost word-for-word from the source**. The few small alterations of the source do not relieve the writer of the responsibility to attribute these words to their original author. A passage from a source may be worth quoting at length if it makes a point precisely or elegantly. In such cases, copy the passage exactly, place it in quotation marks, and cite the author.
 - ◉ <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/integrity/pages/plagiarism.html>

plagiarism

- ◉ **Example 2**
- ◉ **This passage, in content and structure, is taken wholesale from the source**. Although the writer has rewritten much of the paragraph, and fewer phrases are lifted verbatim from the source, this is a clear example of plagiarism. Inserting even short phrases from the source into a new sentence still requires placing quotations around the borrowed words and citing the author. **If even one phrase, e.g. "high heroic terms" is good enough to borrow, it must be properly set off by quotation marks**.
 - ◉ <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/integrity/pages/plagiarism.html>

plagiarism

- ◉ **Example 3**
- ◉ Almost nothing of Kernan's original language remains in this rewritten paragraph. **However the key idea, the choice and order of the examples, and even the basic structure of the original sentences are all taken from the source**. Although it would no longer be necessary to use quotation marks, **it would absolutely be necessary to place a citation at the end of this paragraph to acknowledge that the content is not original**.
 - ◉ <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/integrity/pages/plagiarism.html>

paraphrasing

- ◉ A paraphrase is a *reworking* of the content of another's work
 - A paraphrase is approximately the same length as the original text (summary is always shorter).
- ◉ If your paraphrase is too close to the original you may be accused of plagiarism
 - Similarities lie in words and turns of phrase.
 - Similarities also lie in the range and order of presentation of the ideas expressed

paraphrasing

- ◉ In order to paraphrase, you have to identify and re-present the original's core ideas.
 - Read and take notes
 - Find synonyms for the key terms
 - Consider alternative presentation of the ideas
 - Write your paraphrase from your notes
 - At the end, compare your paraphrase and the original to make sure they are different
 - Finally, insert the reference.

paraphrasing

TASK 2

- ◉ Prepare a paraphrase of the definition of plagiarism.
 - Remember that short texts take proportionately longer to write than longer ones do
 - Spend time looking for synonyms and alternative turns of phrase using on-line dictionaries

summarising

- ◉ A summary is a *condensed* version of a text
 - It is always shorter – often considerably shorter – than the original.
- ◉ If your summary is too close to the original you may be accused of plagiarism
 - Similarities lie in words and turns of phrase.
 - Similarities also lie in the range and order of presentation of the ideas expressed

summarising

- ◉ Summaries condense the important points and present them in a logical sequence.
 - Take notes to identify key terms and concepts
 - Find synonyms for the key terms
 - Write your summary from your notes
 - Compare your summary with the original
 - Finally, insert the reference.
- ◉ TASK 3: Summarise the paragraph provided.
 - Omit all non-essential information
 - Generalise where appropriate
 - Spend time looking for synonyms etc.

referencing

- ◉ Humanities and social sciences prefer the “author-date” style of referencing
 - In-text references appear as (Name, date)
 - The References section is arranged in alphabetical order (by author name)
- ◉ Sciences prefer the “numbering” style
 - In-text references appear as (#)
 - The References section is arranged numerically by order of appearance in the article
- ◉ A few disciplines still use footnotes for refs...