ENGLISH, LITERACY, AND COMMUNICATION

# Avoiding plagiarism

### Difficulty level: Advanced

### English, Literacy, and Communication

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## *Overview of the concept*

This is how you use other people's words and ideas honestly in schoolwork. You quote, reword fully, and give credit, instead of passing their work off as your own. It protects you from serious trouble at school, and it is also just fair, because the ideas you are using took someone else real work to produce.



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## Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

**Q** **Is this plagiarism? Copying a paragraph from a book into your essay without quotation marks or a citation.**

SOLUTION

Ask: are these someone else's words? Yes.

Are they credited? No quotation marks, no citation.

So yes, it is plagiarism.

EXAMPLE 2

**Q** **Is this plagiarism? Writing an idea in your own words and citing the source.**

SOLUTION

Ask: are these your own words? Yes.

Is the source credited? Yes.

So no, it is not plagiarism.

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## Practice questions

1

### Is this plagiarism? Changing only two words in a copied sentence, with no citation.

A Yes

B No

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2

### Is this plagiarism? Quoting a sentence with quotation marks and a citation.

A Yes

B No

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**3** Is this plagiarism? Using a classmate's essay as your own.

- A Yes
- B No

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**4** Is this plagiarism? Summarizing a source in your own words with a citation.

- A Yes
- B No

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**5** Is this plagiarism? Copying an image from the web without credit.

- A Yes
- B No

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**6** Is this plagiarism? Writing your own original story.

- A Yes
- B No

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**7** Is this plagiarism? Copying a paragraph word for word and adding a citation, but using no quotation marks.

- A Yes
- B No

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**8** Is this plagiarism? Submitting the same essay for two classes without permission.

- A Yes
- B No

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9 **Is this plagiarism? Stating a common fact, such as 'Paris is in France', with no citation.**

A Yes

B No

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10 **Is this plagiarism? Buying an essay online and submitting it as your own.**

A Yes

B No

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## ANSWER KEY

**1.** Yes

**2.** No

**3.** Yes

**4.** No

**5.** Yes

**6.** No

**7.** Yes

**8.** Yes

**9.** No

**10.** Yes

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