Access the Avoiding Plagiarism: An Interactive Self-Assessment video here: http://www.screencast.com/t/qSevQdRyemWi
Do you know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it? This self-paced, interactive quiz provides common scenarios where plagiarism is occurring to help you determine your current understanding of plagiarism.
Scenario 1. Ginger is trying to make the evening deadline for her initial discussion post on the topic of homelessness, but she doesn’t have much to say.
She remembers a newspaper article she skimmed recently and decides to read it and use some of the information in her discussion.
She doesn’t feel discussion posts are that important, and she cannot imagine her instructor ever reading her local newspaper, so she includes statements from the article in her post but does not cite the article or put quotation marks around the words she borrowed.
Is Ginger committing plagiarism?

A. Yes, Ginger is committing plagiarism.
B. Yes, but she doesn’t think she needs to cite the newspaper for a discussion, so it’s unintentional and therefore not important.
C. Yes, but since chances are she will never get caught, it doesn’t matter.
D. No, this is not an example of plagiarism since she only borrowed some statements and didn’t try to pass off the whole article as her own.
The answer is yes. Ginger is committing plagiarism.
Plagiarism is the use of another author’s original work—ideas, words, artwork, etcetera—without giving proper credit to that author. Ginger is therefore committing plagiarism since she is using another author’s wording and ideas as her own. Whether intentional or unintentional, the consequences of plagiarizing can be the same.
Scenario 2. Jim is creating a PowerPoint presentation for his marketing class and needs to include images.
He found a blog online with the perfect image for his presentation.
Jim decides to use the photograph from the blog in his own slideshow. He does not cite the photograph since he does not consider a blog online a professional publication.
IS JIM COMMITTING PLAGIARISM?

A. Yes, Jim is plagiarizing.
B. No, Jim is not plagiarizing.
C. Too close to call.

Is Jim plagiarizing?
Yes, Jim is plagiarizing.
Any borrowed information and ideas, including images and artwork, should be cited adjacent to where they are being used in the discussion of your presentation or paper and on a reference list. It's also a good practice to ask permission before using any image or any other re-creation of a complete work such as a photograph.
Scenario 3. Kevin is looking for a fact or example to include in his PowerPoint presentation. He finds a quote that he’d like to use in a popular magazine. He uses it as one of the bullet points on a slide in his presentation.
Kevin puts a reference citation for the source of the quote on the last slide of his presentation under the heading Reference. He does not use an in-text citation since this is a PowerPoint and not a paper.
Is Kevin committing plagiarism?

A. Yes, Kevin is plagiarizing.
B. No, Kevin is not plagiarizing.
C. It does not matter.
**IS KEVIN COMMITTING PLAGIARISM?**

A. **Yes, Kevin is plagiarizing.**
B. No, Kevin is not plagiarizing.
C. It does not matter.

Yes, Kevin is plagiarizing.
An in-text citation is needed after the bullet point on the slide where the quote is being used. The in-text citation indicates for the audience which words belong to the source and which belong to Kevin. In a PowerPoint, all borrowed words must be enclosed in quotation marks and cited in-text and on a reference list slide.

An in-text citation is needed after the bullet point on the slide where the quote is being used. The in-text citation indicates for the audience which words belong to the source and which belong to Kevin. In a PowerPoint, all borrowed words must be enclosed in quotation marks and cited in-text on the slide and on a reference list slide.
Scenario 4. In 2017, Sara authored an article in an online publication. In paragraph 15 of the article, she stated, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world.”
In paragraph 15 of a 2017 online publication, Sara Smith wrote, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world.”

**WHICH IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAY TO USE AND CITE THIS QUOTE?**

A. Sara Smith (2017) described blogging as “an opportunity for open dialogue with the world.”

B. Smith (2017) explained, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world” (para. 15).

C. S. Smith noted, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world (Smith, 2017, para. 15).

Which of the following examples is the best way to appropriately incorporate the quote in a paper?
In paragraph 15 of a 2017 online publication, Sara Smith wrote, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world.”

**Which is the most appropriate way to use and cite this quote?**

A. Sara Smith (2017) described blogging as “an opportunity for open dialogue with the world.”

B. Smith (2017) explained, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world” (para. 15).

C. S. Smith noted, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world (Smith, 2017, para. 15).

The correct answer is B. The most appropriate way to cite this source is Smith (2017) explained, “Blogging is an opportunity to begin a dialogue with the world” (para. 15).
When citing a quote, use the exact wording and put quotation marks around the quoted words. When citing a paraphrase, use all new wording. Readers should be able to easily see where a source is being used.
Scenario 5. Edwardo is writing a research paper and wants to use information he found on a website.
No author is indicated on the website, so he placed only the web address on a reference list at the end of his paper.

He did not include an in-text citation since he only paraphrased and didn’t know the author's name.
He did not include an in-text citation since he only paraphrased and didn’t know the author’s name.
WHICH STATEMENT IS TRUE ABOUT EDWARDO’S CITATION OF THE WEBSITE?

A. Edwardo cited his paraphrase sufficiently since he provided the only bibliographic information he had, the URL for the website, on a references list.

B. Edwardo has not cited sufficiently. When citing a source without an author, you still need an in-text citation, except with the title instead of the author name.

C. Edwardo has not cited sufficiently. When citing a source without an author, the URL also goes in parentheses after the paraphrase or quote.

Is Edwardo plagiarizing?
AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

WHICH STATEMENT IS TRUE ABOUT EDWARDO'S CITATION OF THE WEBSITE?

A. Edwardo cited his paraphrase sufficiently since he provided the only bibliographic information he had, the URL for the website, on a references list.

B. Edwardo has not cited sufficiently. When citing a source without an author, you still need an in-text citation, except with the title in place of the author name.

C. Edwardo has not cited sufficiently. When citing a source without an author, the URL also goes in parentheses after the paraphrase or quote.

Yes. Edwardo has not cited sufficiently. When citing a source without an author, you still need an in-text citation, except with the title in place of the author name.
In-text citations tell readers which information comes from a source. References tell where they can locate each source. If an individual author is not named, cite the entity responsible for the information; if a sponsoring organization is not named, use the title. In-text and reference citations match. If you cite a title in-text, alphabetize the source on the reference list by title as well.
Scenario 6. Consider the following direct quote from a journal article: “It is too early to tell what long-run changes the newer and more unusual Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model will bring, although CSA farms will probably never be more than a small part of the food system” (Brown & Miller, 2008, p. 1300).
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS AN APPROPRIATE PARAPHRASE?

"CSA farms will probably never be more than a small part of the food system" (Brown & Miller, 2008, p. 1300).

A. CSA farms may never be more than a small part of the country’s food system.
B. CSA farms will probably only be a small part of America’s food system.
C. As Brown and Miller (2008) pointed out, CSA farms are not expected to supply the majority of food to consumers.
D. Both A. and C.

Which of the following is an appropriate paraphrase?
The answer is C. As Brown and Miller (2008) pointed out, CSA farms are not expected to supply the majority of food to consumers. This answer provides a citation and is rewritten to show an understanding of the original information.
Paraphrasing requires you to read information and understand it enough to put it in your own words. Putting another author’s ideas in your own words requires rewriting information and ideas using your own style and voice. Plagiarism occurs when original wording remains and it is not cited as a quote with quotation marks.

Paraphrasing requires you to read information and understand it enough to put it in your own words. Putting another author’s ideas in your own words requires rewriting information and ideas using your own style and voice. Plagiarism occurs when original wording remains, and it is not cited as a quote or with quotation marks.
SCENARIO 7: KAYLA’S ROUGH DRAFT

• Kayla has procrastinated on writing her rough draft and has only three of the required five pages complete and only a half hour before the deadline.

Scenario 7. Kayla has procrastinated on writing her rough draft and has only three of the required five pages complete it, and there is only a half hour before the deadline.
Kayla quickly copies and pastes information from a few websites into her rough draft without quotation marks or citations.

She intends to use this information as a placeholder until she can continue her research and writing process.
She then submits her draft to her professor just in time.
HAS KAYLA PLAGIARIZED?

A. No because she know she needs to go back and replace the copied information with her own ideas and original research.
B. Yes. She included borrowed information without using quotation marks or citations to indicate it was borrowed or who the source was or any interpretations or original ideas to explain it or synthesize it with her own ideas.
C. No because it is a rough draft. Students can only be reported for plagiarism if it’s found in a final draft.

Has Kayla plagiarized?
The answer is yes. Kayla committed plagiarism. Yes. She included borrowed information in her draft without using quotation marks or citations to indicate it was borrowed or who the source was or any interpretations or original ideas to explain it or synthesize the website information with her own ideas.
Although Kayla plans to replace the copied and pasted information, she should still be putting forth her own ideas and properly citing research at every stage of the writing process. Instructors may submit any assignment turned in for a grade to a program that identifies possible plagiarism. Always cite your sources and use quotation marks appropriately. Also, allow yourself enough time for the research and writing process.
For resources on citing sources, avoiding plagiarism, and writing with integrity, please visit the Writing Center's writing resources, citation guides, and plagiarism information pages found under Manage Your Students and Time on the Academic Support Center homepage.