

# Paraphrasing for Academic Honesty

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# Academic Honesty in the USA

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## Related terms

**Academic integrity**

**Acknowledgement**

**Cite / Citation**

**Give credit**

**Intellectual Property**

**Signal Phrase**

**Verbatim**



How do you view this situation?



# What do professors expect in college?

**REFLECTION:** “Select two specific illustrations of Chua's parenting style and explain why you agree or disagree with her strategies. Write a paragraph about each of your illustrations. Remember to refer to the text.”

**LAB REPORT:** In this section, you should use references from current and scientific journals and textbooks about your subject. Relate the references to your specific research, giving reasons and rationale for the project. Avoid using direct quotations when citing information from outside sources.

**SUMMARY:** Summarize one scholarly, peer-reviewed journal article. Include only the author's main ideas. Do not include more than two quotes. Use APA style citations.

# Your experience

How do students refer to authors or experts in assignments in your country?

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- Cultural views
- Educational practices
- Writing Style or Voice

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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# Plagiarism

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- Submitting written work using someone else's words **or** ideas **without** appropriate or adequate use of quotation marks or citation.
- Using exact words or unique phrases from a source without quotation marks or a citation.
- Using an incorrect or incomplete citation even though the source is mentioned.
- Paraphrasing that is too close to the wording or structure of the original source.

# The Problem with Plagiarism

## The original passage:

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Students frequently overuse direct quotation in taking notes, and as a result they overuse quotations in the final [research] paper. Probably only about 10% of your final manuscript should appear as directly quoted matter. Therefore, you should strive to limit the amount of exact transcribing of source materials while taking notes.

Lester, James D. *Writing Research Papers*. 2nd ed. (1976): 46-47.

## A plagiarized version:

Students often use too many direct quotations when they take notes, resulting in too many of them in the final research paper. In fact, only about 10% of the final copy should consist of directly quoted material. So it is important to limit the amount of source material copied while taking notes.

SOLUTION:  
Paraphrasing

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# Qualities of a good paraphrase

## CHECKLIST

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- original meaning
- signal phrase or reporting verb
- understandable words
- different structure
- citation

# SIMPLE PARAPHRASE

## The original passage:

Students frequently overuse direct quotation in taking notes, and as a result they overuse quotations in the final [research] paper. Probably only about 10% of your final manuscript should appear as directly quoted matter. Therefore, you should strive to limit the amount of exact transcribing of source materials while taking notes.

Lester, James D. *Writing Research Papers*. 2nd ed. (1976): 46-47.

## Simple effective paraphrase:

Lester (1976) claims that research papers should not have too many direct quotations, at most 10% of the paper. But students tend to copy too many quotes from the original sources. While taking notes, he suggests it's better to keep direct quotations to a minimum (46-47).

# EFFECTIVE PARAPHRASE

## The original passage:

Students frequently overuse direct quotation in taking notes, and as a result they overuse quotations in the final [research] paper. Probably only about 10% of your final manuscript should appear as directly quoted matter. Therefore, you should strive to limit the amount of exact transcribing of source materials while taking notes.

Lester, James D. *Writing Research Papers*. 2nd ed. (1976): 46-47.

## A legitimate paraphrase:

In research papers students often quote excessively, failing to keep quoted material down to a desirable level. Since the problem usually originates during note taking, it is essential to minimize the material recorded verbatim (Lester 46-47).

# CHECKLIST FOR EFFECTIVE PARAPHRASE

DID YOU...

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1. Communicate the original meaning?
2. Use different words?
3. Use different sentence structure/word order?
4. Credit the original author/source?
  - a. signal phrase
  - b. citation

# EFFECTIVE, TOO SIMILAR, or INACCURATE

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“Astronomers have already discovered a handful of Earthlike planets, and when you consider the number of stars out there, it’s likely that there are more. These scientific findings indicate that we are not alone in the universe.”

\_\_\_ Astronomers have already found some planets similar to Earth, and considering how many stars there are, it’s likely that humans are not alone in the galaxy.

\_\_\_ We know we are not the only intelligent life in the universe because astronomers have already discovered planets like Earth, and many more are waiting to be discovered.

\_\_\_ Intelligent life is likely to exist in the universe, given the large number of stars out there and the fact that scientists are discovering planets like our own.

# LET'S PRACTICE: Paraphrasing

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# EFFECTIVE, AWKWARD, TOO SIMILAR, INACCURATE, or INCOMPLETE

ORIGINAL: **“Learning languages at a young age is also associated with better problem-solving, heightened verbal skills, and mental agility”**  
("Editorial: Children can, and should, learn more than one language").

     1. As children are exposed to different languages, they gain real-world abilities ("Editorial").

     2. Studies show that those who speak more than one language have more capabilities in life, in work, and in school ("Editorial").

     3. According to research, experiencing two or more languages prepares kids to deal with issues and think in a better way and enjoy scholarly achievement.

     4. Being able to solve problems, express oneself verbally, and think quickly are related to learning another language in childhood ("Editorial").

     5. Children who learn another language seem to have problem-solving abilities, better speaking skills, and enhanced thinking ("Editorial").

# References

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