

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism



Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Original Material:

At dawn on Sunday, 8 January 1815, as the mist cleared, the British army attacked the heavily defended ditch and rampart guarding New Orleans. The town, which dated from 1718, was then the one big place on the far side of the Appalachian frontier, the key to the South and the Gulf of Mexico. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803, whereby Napoleon made over 828,000 square miles of French-claimed territory to the United States, thus increasing its national territory by 140 percent and making possible the creation of thirteen new states—all for the princely sum of \$15 million, or four cents an acre—ensured its importance. Governor William Claiborne had said in the following year, in a letter to Thomas Jefferson: “There appears to me a moral certainty that in ten years it will rival Philadelphia or New York.” He was proved right. Until the Ohio Valley could be firmly and cheaply linked to the East Coast, all the trade of the Mississippi had to go in and out through New Orleans.

Johnson, Paul. *The Birth of the Modern: World Society 1815-1830*. New York: Harper Collins, 1991. Print.

Plagiarism:

New Orleans always existed as the major trade location left of the Appalachian territory and always served as a key access to the South and Gulf of Mexico. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase provided the United States with 828,000 square miles of the formerly French-owned land—all for four cents an acre, a total of \$15 million dollars.

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Original Material:

At dawn on Sunday, 8 January 1815, as the mist cleared, the British army attacked the heavily defended ditch and rampart guarding New Orleans. The town, which dated from 1718, was then the **one big place on the far side of the Appalachian frontier, the key to the South and the Gulf of Mexico**. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803, whereby **Napoleon made over 828,000 square miles of French-claimed territory to the United States**, thus increasing its national territory by 140 percent and making possible the creation of thirteen new states—**all for the princely sum of \$15 million, or four cents an acre**—ensured its importance. Governor William Claiborne had said in the following year, in a letter to Thomas Jefferson: “There appears to me a moral certainty that in ten years it will rival Philadelphia or New York.” He was proved right. Until the Ohio Valley could be firmly and cheaply linked to the East Coast, all the trade of the Mississippi had to go in and out through New Orleans.

Plagiarism:

New Orleans always existed as the major trade location, **left of the Appalachian territory and always served as a key access to the South and Gulf of Mexico**. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase provided **the United States with 828,000 square miles of the formerly French-owned land—all for four cents an acre, a total of \$15 million dollars**.

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Not Plagiarism:

As Paul Johnson shows in his book, *The Birth of the Modern*, New Orleans always existed as the major trade location, left of the Appalachian territory and always served as a key access to the South and Gulf of Mexico. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase provided the United States with 828,000 square miles of the formerly French-owned land—all for four cents an acre, a total of \$15 million dollars (1).

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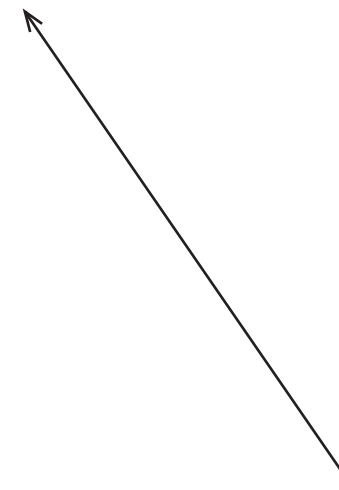
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Signal phrase



*In-text note -or-
Parenthetical citation*



In the *SFW* p 286-294 covers a variety of parenthetical citations and the different possibilities.

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Basic Paragraph Construction

- I. *Topic Sentence opens paragraph and details author's observations and views.*
 - A. Secondary Evidence Sentence defends topic with more details from author.
 - B. If further clarification is needed, such as defining terms, another SES can be used.
 - C. The author now introduces an outside source with a *signal phrase*; in this manner, a critical opinion is established for the reader.
Use a quote or paraphrase which:
 - agrees with the subject
 - counters the argument
 - supplies an alternative, similar authoritative view
 - D. The author now clarifies, re-examines, interprets, defines, or analyzes information provided in the quote.

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Plagiarism (*plagiarism.org*; *SFW* p 286-294)

*—so what **is** plagiarism?*

- Act of fraud.
- Using statements or data and claiming it as your own.
- Copying text word for word from another source, claiming it as your own.
- Paraphrasing without crediting the source.

What is a paraphrase?

Paraphrasing is the restatement of a text or passage giving the meaning in another form; rewording.

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

All of the following are considered plagiarism: (from *plagiarism.org*)

- turning in someone else's work as your own
- copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving proper full credit
- copying words or concepts from a source so that it makes up a majority of your work, *whether you give credit or not*

Paraphrasing vs. Plagiarism

Always keep in mind: Just changing the words of an original source is *not* sufficient to prevent plagiarism. If you have retained the essential idea of an original source, and have not cited it, then no matter how drastically you may have altered its context or presentation, you have still plagiarized.

Paraphrasing vs. Summary

Summary

- A summary is a concise series of statements, written in your own words, briefly explaining information found in another source. Usually it is useful to summarize an article from another source as a means of defending your topic. Keep it brief and accurate—*less than four sentences is ideal.*

Paraphrasing

- As already discussed, paraphrasing is when you take a paragraph or short series of paragraphs from another source, and then form the initial idea *in your own words.*

1. read the original passage until you fully understand its meaning.
2. set the original source aside and compose your version.
3. check your version against the original for accuracy
4. check your version to see if you borrowed unique phrasing unintentionally
5. credit the original source in the paper **and** in the work cited page.

Works Cited Page Overview

The works cited page exists as a listing of references which exist in the body paragraphs of the research paper. *Every entry on this page should reflect a quote or paraphrase used within your paper.* (See *SFW* p 295-296, 302-331.)

- the list is set up in alpha-order by last name of author
- if no author is available, the title of the work itself or the web entry title is used
(Use the first word in the title, other than *A*, *An*, or *The*.)
- Do *not* use the phrase “anonymous” or “unknown”—this is considered *wrong*.
- the proper presentation of each entry is called a *hanging indent*

Works Cited Page Overview

Basic Print Example:

Johnson, Paul. *The Birth of the Modern: World Society 1815-1830*.

New York: Harper Collins, 1991. Print.

Works Cited Page Overview

- A sample template exists on page 344-345 in the *SFW*.
- Each type of technology has its own unique presentation to help distinguish the different types of resources
- Furthermore, on pages 302-331 the *SFW* displays a catalog of different situations which may occur when quoting sources of material. They show correct guidelines for both a works cited entry and the corresponding in-text note.
- Whenever you come across an unique situation, refer back to your book to tell you what to do. *Remember to use the text as a resource for building your papers. You will need to book for future English classes, specifically 1302.*