

Plagiarism Exercise
(Learning about Academic Honesty)

1. What does "common knowledge" mean? _____

2. Please give an example of common knowledge. _____

3. What's the minimum number of words in a row that you can borrow, and still be sure you are not plagiarizing?
 - a. Zero words in a row
 - b. Two words in a row
 - c. Three words in a row
 - d. Four or more words in a row
4. When you need to add some words to a quote so that it makes sense, or so that it is grammatically OK, you should use
 - a. –the dash sign—
 - b. <the sideways carrot>
 - c. !@#\$the exclamation signs\$#@!
 - d. (the parenthesis)
 - e. [the square parenthesis]
5. You are reading one author, who gives a quote and a footnote citing another author. Can you use this quote that you found someone else's book?
 - a. No. You need to read the original book.
 - b. No. Since someone already cited it, it would be plagiarism for you to cite it.
 - c. Yes. You can use the quote, as long as you give the author and title and date and page of the book you read it in.
 - d. Yes, You can use the quote so long as you cite both authors, and say "as quoted in..."
6. You read in the newspaper that Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday. You want to put that in a paper you are writing. What do you need to do?
 - a. Cite the newspaper: title, author, date, and page.
 - b. Cite Martin Luther King. He said many good things.
 - c. Cite the U. S. Government. It is the "author" of many laws, including the one that made Martin Luther King Day a federal holiday.
 - d. Absolutely nothing. Just say Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday, no quotes, no footnotes, nothing.
7. If you are writing a paper for your Shakespeare class, which citation style will you most likely use?
 - a. APA
 - b. MLA
 - c. CBE
 - d. Chicago
8. One problem you might run into is
 - a. The librarians are not helpful.
 - b. There aren't enough resources at the library.
 - c. There is no writing at all on the topic, not in any language or format.
 - d. You have allotted too much time for research and boredom starts to set in.
9. In order to avoid plagiarism, when you want to summarize a text in your own words, you should
 - a. Look at the original as you type your own.
 - b. Look at a copy of the original you have pasted into your paper.
 - c. Add and subtract words from the original you have added into your paper.
 - d. Look away from the original.
10. If you take someone's idea or unique research and put it in your own words with no citation, that is
 - a. OK. You have put it into your own words, not hers.
 - b. OK. Ideas and thoughts are free, as some famous German said.
 - c. Not OK. You should not need to use other's ideas or unique research. You should do your own.
 - d. Not OK. You need to give a citation.