



الجامعة السعودية الإلكترونية  
Saudi Electronic University

# ACADEMIC WRITING WORKSHOP

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# Why Writing skills are Important in Academic settings?



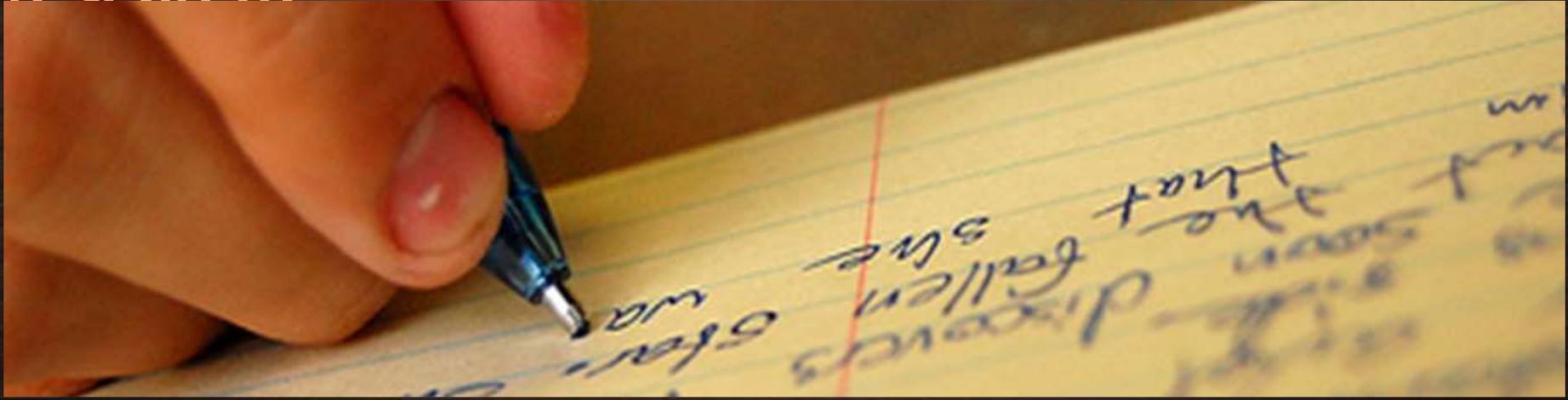
# Why Writing is Important

Any student in a high level institution will be usually required to write a variety of dissertations, papers and essays throughout the whole period of their studies.

**These writing tasks and assignments will cover a myriad of goals, objectives and purposes.**



Sometimes, these assignments can be written just by displaying and sharing *personal experiences* or *previously acquired knowledge*. → (No effective research)



But...

Other times, essays will require extra efforts and additional research and the use of external sources...





**CONFUSING?**



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**CAN IT GET ANYMORE  
CONFUSING?**



**Sometimes, you, as students, will be required to write an essay in a limited**



Irrespective of the actual assignment,  
understanding what is good writing  
and what are the proper techniques to  
use, will lead **YOU** to be able to  
produce a well-crafted essay in  
**SHORTER TIMES!**



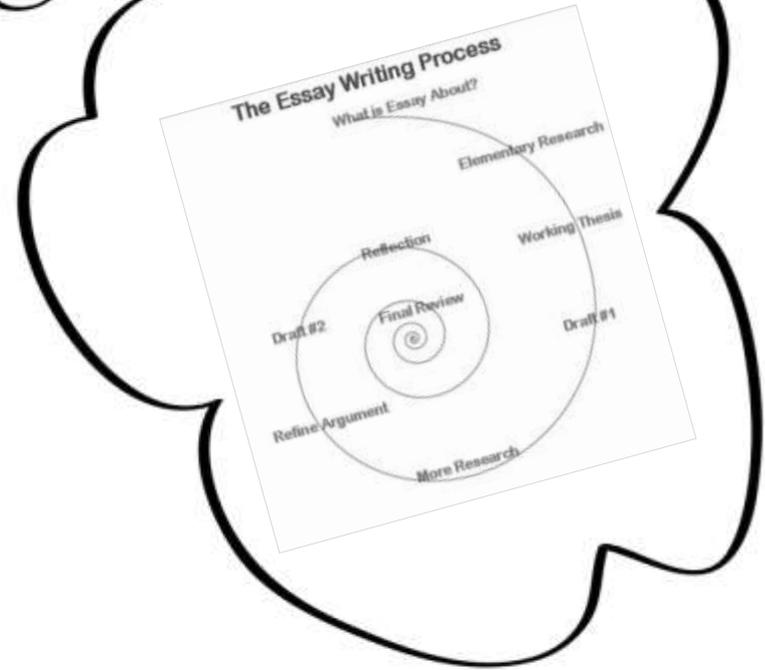
**Good writing is also an important skill that translates into any career field. Nearly all professions require some form of writing in all business fields: e.g. e-mails, letters, reports, or any written communication for clients, co-workers, suppliers and other contacts**

communi  
mu/ni•ca'tor n.  
**com•mu•ni•ca•tion**  
communicating; trans  
or informati

Writing is, then, an  
**IMPORTANT**  
skill to acquire!



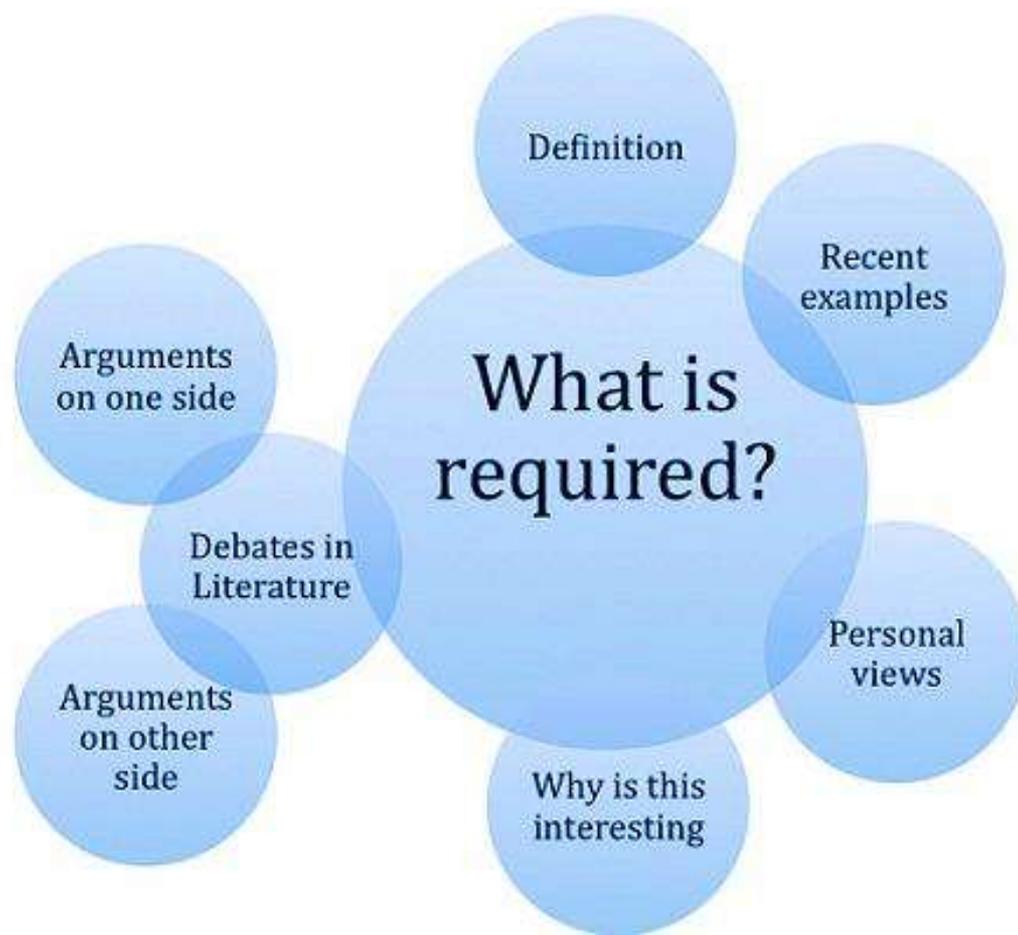
# WHAT PROCESS DO YOU USE?



- Writing strategies?
- Process of writing an Academic paper?
- Structure of academic writing?



**HOW DO YOU ORGANIZE  
YOUR IDEAS?**



**THINGS TO CONSIDER!**

WHAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE ESSAY?  
WHAT ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS?

BRAINSTORMING  
& ELEMENTARY RESEARCH  
DEFINE YOUR OUTLINE

ROUGH DRAFT (1ST DRAFT)  
MAIN THESIS STATEMENT

DEEPER & DETAILED RESEARCH

REFINE YOUR DRAFT  
EVEN REFINE YOUR OUTLINE

PREFINAL DRAFT

REFLEXION, PROOFREADING  
AND FINAL REVIEW

SUBMISSION

**SUGGESTED GENERAL PROCESS**

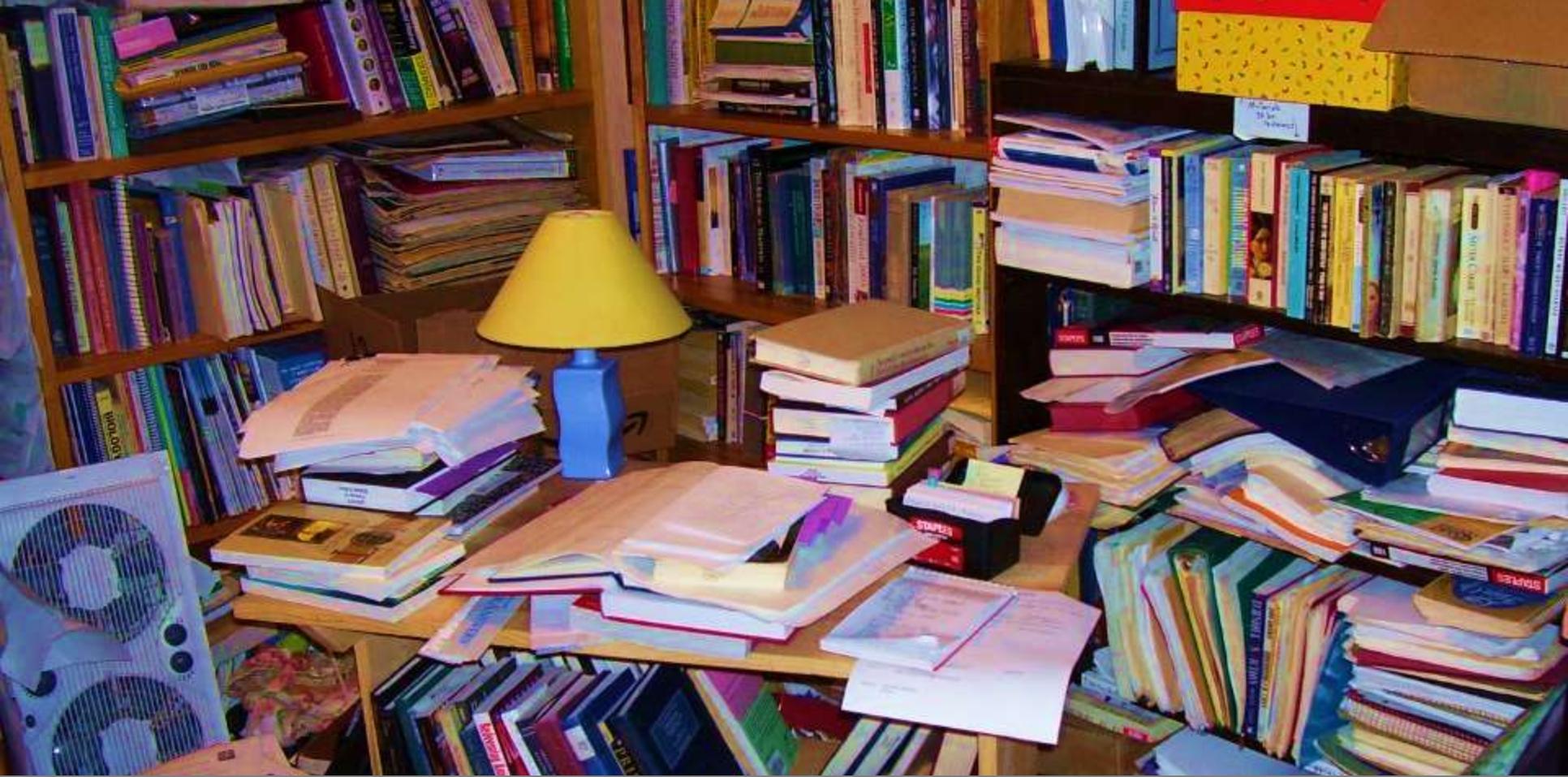
# THE PROCESS HAS TO BE ADAPTED TO DIFFERENT ASSIGNMENTS

(According to subject, timeframe, type of content required etc...)

→ DECIDE HOW MUCH TIME IS GOING TO SPENT ON EVERY PART OF THE PROCESS

# DEFINITIONS & HOW-





**RESEARCH**



# Research

Once you know the scope and the subject of the task , its time to start researching.

**WHERE TO START?**



# Research

❓ WHAT ARE CREDIBLE  
RESOURCES?

❓ WHERE TO FIND THEM?

❓ HOW MANY RESOURCES?



# GIVE ME YOUR THOUGHTS?



? WHAT ARE CREDIBLE RESOURCES?

? WHERE TO FIND THEM?

? HOW MANY RESOURCES?



# Research

A credible source for academic writing is one whose accuracy is supported by academic peer review and reference to a foundation of relevant established research.

*i.e. a source with a solid authority within its discipline*

# Credible sources

- 💡 Your textbooks
- 💡 Books published by recognized authors & publishers
- 💡 Papers published in Scientific journals (IF...)
- 💡 Scholar and official websites that are regularly updated (.edu, .edu.sa, .edu.--, .gov)
- 💡 Scientific and scholar databases

# Research

**So, a credible source is reviewed by experts in the field and cites the sources it, in turn, uses to generate and support its argument.**

# Research

Wikipedia, for example, is not a credible source. Even if a given article may be completely and verifiably true, but there is no academic authority present to validate its truth.

**BUT IT CAN BE USED AS A STARTING POINT!**



# Research

- 💡 You have to determine what content will you look for in these credible sources to research your topic and to make yourself an “expert” in this topic.
- 💡 The number of needed resources depends on the type of paper (from ~5 to hundreds)

# Research

During research start saving interesting sources and taking notes and summarize the attention-grabbing thoughts . Try to immerse yourself in the literature published recently.





**Outcome of good  
research: Logical  
information chunks,  
themes and Levels**





# BRAINSTORMING

# Brainstorming

The purpose of Brainstorming and critical thinking is to be able to make better decisions and choices for your paper.

Use Brainstorming for increased awareness and searching for deeper and clearer understanding.





**GROUP BRAINSTORMING IS ADVISED**

**Even for individual tasks!**



**BUT BRAINSTORMING CAN BE**

# Different techniques of brainstorming

- Asking many and varied questions about the topic and answering them
- Free writing
- Breaking down the topic into levels
- Clustering / Mapping and Webbing
- Etc...





# Thesis Statement

The thesis statement announces the topic of your essay and what you want to say about it.

**It's your main idea sentence!**

# WHAT MAKES A GOOD THESIS?



# A good thesis statement

- 1- Must be a statement, not a question.
- 2- must be a complete sentence.
- 3- It is an opinion and shows intent; it cannot be a simple statement of fact.
- 4- Should have only one guiding idea

# Thesis statement

Choose the main idea and pin it down in a clear statement/assertion. This has to be well summed up in a concise sentence allowing the reader to know where you're going? and why?



# Thesis statement

**It's virtually impossible to write a good essay without a clear thesis.**



# Thesis statement

**A thesis statement should be specific and not too general. Otherwise, you will have to write a a lot of content to support it! Unless you are writing a long essay this should be avoided!**

# Thesis statement

However, a thesis statement should not be too specific either. Because you probably won't be able to write enough about it and finding sources to support will be hard.

# To sum it up, a thesis statement:

- 💡 Expresses your viewpoint on a subject
- 💡 Introduces & anchors your arguments
- 💡 Should be stated explicitly in your introduction & conclusion
- 💡 Should be validated by providing evidence in your essay

## Research Paper Outline

- **Introduction**
  - Thesis statement.
  - Purpose of research paper.
- **Body**
  - Strong argument.
  - Stronger argument.
  - Strongest argument.
- **Conclusion**
  - Summary of arguments.

**OUTLINE / ESSAY MAP**

# Outline (Essay map)

It is always a good idea to sketch out your essay before straightway writing it out.

There are many online tools to help you create outline and essay maps.



# Outline

For your outline, use short sentences to describe paragraphs.

Use bullets to describe what each paragraph will cover.

# Outline

## Essay Map

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

### Introduction:

Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken" uses symbolism to express how the speaker views his life, and the decisions he chooses to make.

### Main Idea #1:

The roads symbolize the speaker's choices.

### Supporting Details

1. he has two choices of roads
2. one is overgrown
3. one is well-worn

### Main Idea #2:

The speaker's choice symbolizes his or her independence.

### Supporting Details

1. the first road is overgrown, not grassy and smooth
2. he chose the first - the one less traveled
3. it was a path no other people had taken

### Conclusion

By using the symbol of the two roads and the speaker's decision, Robert Frost communicates the idea that the speaker has chosen a course of action that is unique and different than what most people decide. This choice to be independent affected the speaker's future.

### Main Idea #3:

That choice influenced the speaker's character.

### Supporting Details

1. he knows he can't go back and make the decision again
2. he will be telling the story far in the future
3. choosing the road less traveled has made all the difference.

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**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

# Writing your first draft

A draft is the preliminary and initial effort form of your essay. It is going to be subject to revision, amendments, refining etc...



# When writing your first draft

- Don't worry (yet) about your introduction
- Pick the way that is the most comfortable for YOU (Location, tools – PC, Handwriting...- etc.)
- Write your first draft as rapidly as you can to avoid writer's block and bracket those sections you can't write yet → try to finish a draft of the whole essay.

The best ~~way~~ way to get a  
you focus on the

**PROOFREADING**

# Proofreading

Proofreading means examining your essay cautiously to spot and correct mistakes in grammar, style, and spelling.

There are online tools but it is better to do it yourself!

# Before proofreading

Be sure you've reviewed and brushed up the most important aspects of your content. Don't make corrections at the sentence & word level if you still need to work on the focus, organization, structure and overall writing of the paper.

# Before proofreading

Leave your paper aside for a while (few hours/days) between writing & proofreading it. Some distance from the content will help you see mistakes faster & more easily.



# Before proofreading

**Eliminate unnecessary words before looking for actual mistakes. Write short, clear, concise, direct sentences.**

**Also, from the previous comments of your professors on old papers, set a list of mistakes you need to watch for.**

# Proofreading

NOW YOU ARE REALLY READY FOR  
THE ACTUAL PROOFREADING OF  
YOUR  
PAPER / E-PROJECT...



# Proofreading

**Start proofreading on a printout of your document before going back to on-screen editing. While doing this read out loud to spot run-on sentences and hear other problems that you may not see while reading silently.**

# Proofreading

Go back to your Text editor on your computer to use the Spell check and search functions to find mistakes you're likely to make or to correct the spelling of a word you wrote incorrectly many times.

*The list of common mistakes you created will be helpful here!*

# Proofreading

Once finished print again the document for a final proofread. If you have wisely respected previous steps you will only find few things to correct or adjust.

*This process will help you write better content in the future too!*

# COMPONENTS OF A





# INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION

## Introduction



Interesting question or fact—get the reader's attention!



Bridge sentence—connect the first sentence to the Thesis statement.



**Thesis statement**—state the main idea of the essay here.

# INTRODUCTION

- 💡 It signals the topic in an interesting way
- 💡 Announces the main points of the paper
- 💡 It include your thesis statement
- 💡 IMO, it shouldn't be written in the 1st place
- 💡 Its length should be proportional to your full paper but not too long

# INTRODUCTION

- 💡 An introduction should attention-grabbing and can give a glimpse about how you are going to support your thesis
- 💡 An introduction should NOT present background or general factual information; Nor start with a dictionary definition, a cliché, a general truth or a grand generalization

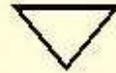


**MAIN BODY**

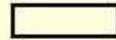


# MAIN BODY

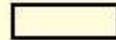
Depending on your paper instructions and length the number of paragraphs in main section varies from 1 to several paragraphs.



Topic sentence



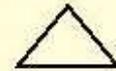
Body sentence 1



Body sentence 2



Body sentence 3

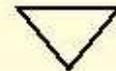


Concluding sentence

\*Minimum of 3 body sentences

## Body Paragraph 1

First main point of the essay.



Topic sentence



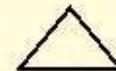
Body sentence 1



Body sentence 2



Body sentence 3



Concluding sentence

\*Minimum of 3 body sentences

## Body Paragraph 2

Second main point of the essay.



**Present a topic sentence that identifies the main claim or claims that you will prove in the paragraph.**

**Present the first supporting fact and explain how the fact helps prove the claim or claims in the topic sentence.**

**Present the second supporting fact and explain how the fact helps prove the claim or claims in the topic sentence.**

**Present the third supporting fact and explain how the fact helps prove the claim or claims in the topic sentence.**

**After proving the claim or claims in the topic sentence, present a transitional sentence that leads readers to the main idea in the next paragraph.**

The topic sentence should present the claim or claims that you will support and develop in the rest of the paragraph.

After the topic sentence, you should present (1) specific facts that support the claim or claims that appear in the topic sentence and (2) explain how each fact logically supports the claim or claims.

Be careful not to present facts that do not support the ideas in the topic sentence, and be careful not to present additional claims that are not relevant to the ideas in the topic sentence.

End with a transitional sentence that shows how the main idea in this paragraph is logically related to the main idea in the next body paragraph.

**WHAT CAN WE PUT IN  
THE MAIN BODY?**



**The main body paragraphs could include relevant paragraphs about:**

- 💡 **Historical background**
- 💡 **Current mainstream Vs alternative theoretical viewpoints (e.g. Evolution Vs other theories)**
- 💡 **Possible approaches to the subject (empirical, philosophical, historical, technical, etc)**
- 💡 **Current state of research studies**

**Main body will also generally contain paragraphs about:**

- 💡 **Definitions of words and concepts**
- 💡 **Major issues and questions raised**
- 💡 **Major theories to answer those questions**
- 💡 **Techniques, methodologies & methods used**

**As usual, this depends on your paper instructions!**



**CONCLUSION**

# CONCLUSION

Remember a hamburger  
is not outstanding  
without the bottom bun!

Conclusion

BRIDGE

?!

Restate **thesis**—"echo" the main idea, but don't simply repeat it.

Bridge sentence—connect the restated thesis to the last sentence.

Interesting question/fact—leave reader with something to think on!

# CONCLUSION

The conclusion states to the readers that you are winding up and preparing to finish off your paper.

So in the conclusion it is advised to rephrase the thesis statement along with the main ideas of your paper.



# THE CONCLUSION SHOULD

- 💡 Be a logical windup to what has been previously discussed
- 💡 Never contain any new information unless it is a question or future perspective
- 💡 Usually it is the shortest part of the essay
- 💡 Add to the overall quality and impact of the essay

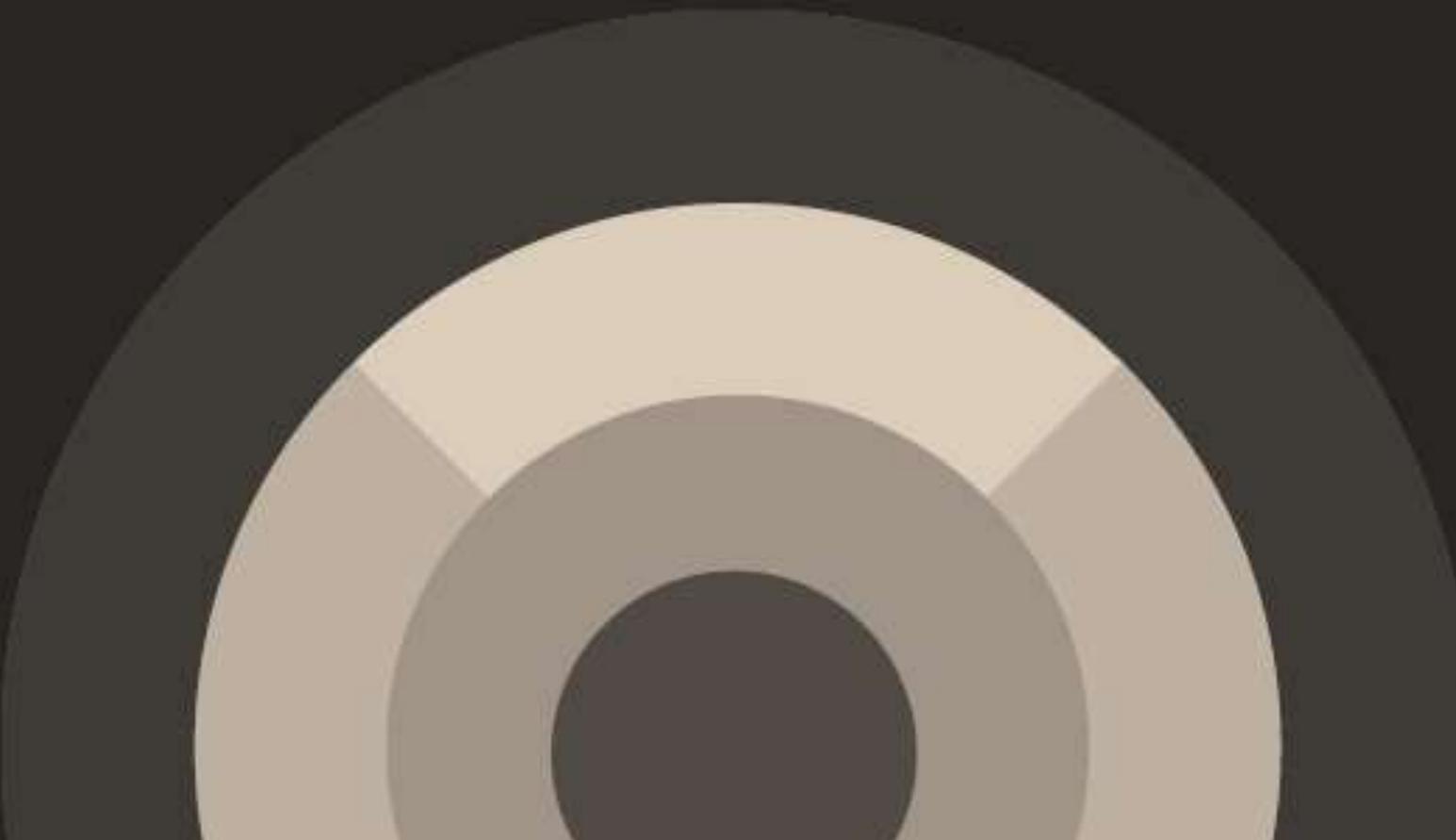
# THE CONCLUSION SHOULD NOT

- 💡 Just be a summary
- 💡 End with a long quotation (Or even contain one)
- 💡 Just focus on minor points of your argument
- 💡 Introduce new material

# CONCLUSION

The conclusion has to tie together the various issues enclosed in the body of the paper and to comment on the meaning of the whole writing.

i.e.: implications resulting from your arguments, future perspectives, recommendations, trends, and what might need further research to improve this paper.

A circular graphic composed of concentric rings and segments. The outermost ring is dark gray. The next ring inward is light beige and is divided into two segments by a vertical line. The third ring is a medium gray and is also divided into two segments. The center is a solid dark gray circle. The overall design is minimalist and geometric.

**FINAL STRUCTURE CONNECTIONS**

# MAIN BODY

**INTRODUCTION**

**CONCLUSION**

**WEAK ESSAYS AND WRITINGS DO NOT  
HAVE THESE CONNECTIONS**





**WE NEED TO TALK  
ABOUT SOMETHING**

**NOW!**

DR. KHALED  
SAYS!

~~What to cut and~~  
~~When to paste in~~  
~~formation out of~~  
~~Wikipedia article~~  
~~s no big deal?~~

**cut** For college students,  
**paste** the definition  
of plagiarism is changing  
in the digital era

PLAGIARISM

# TRUST

is like a paper  
once it's crumpled

it can't be

PERFECT

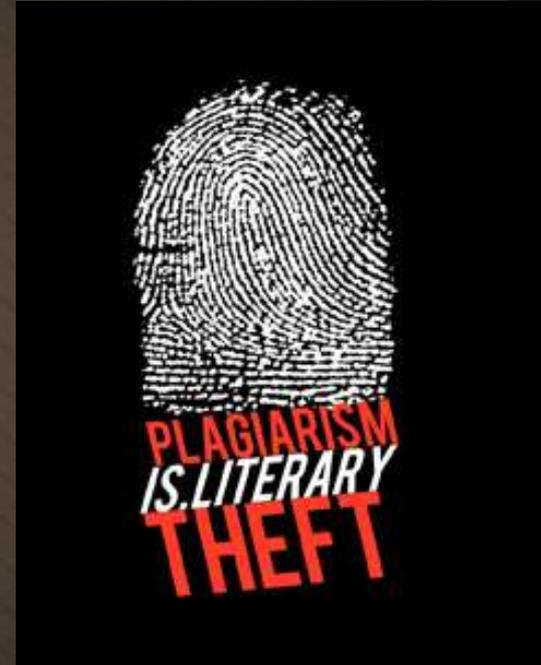
*again*

You can flatten the paper and try and make it as straight as you want, but it will never be perfect again.

# PLAGIARISM

The act or instance of using or closely imitating the language & thoughts of others (or even yourself from older works) & presenting the work as one's own new original work without not crediting the original author/Work.

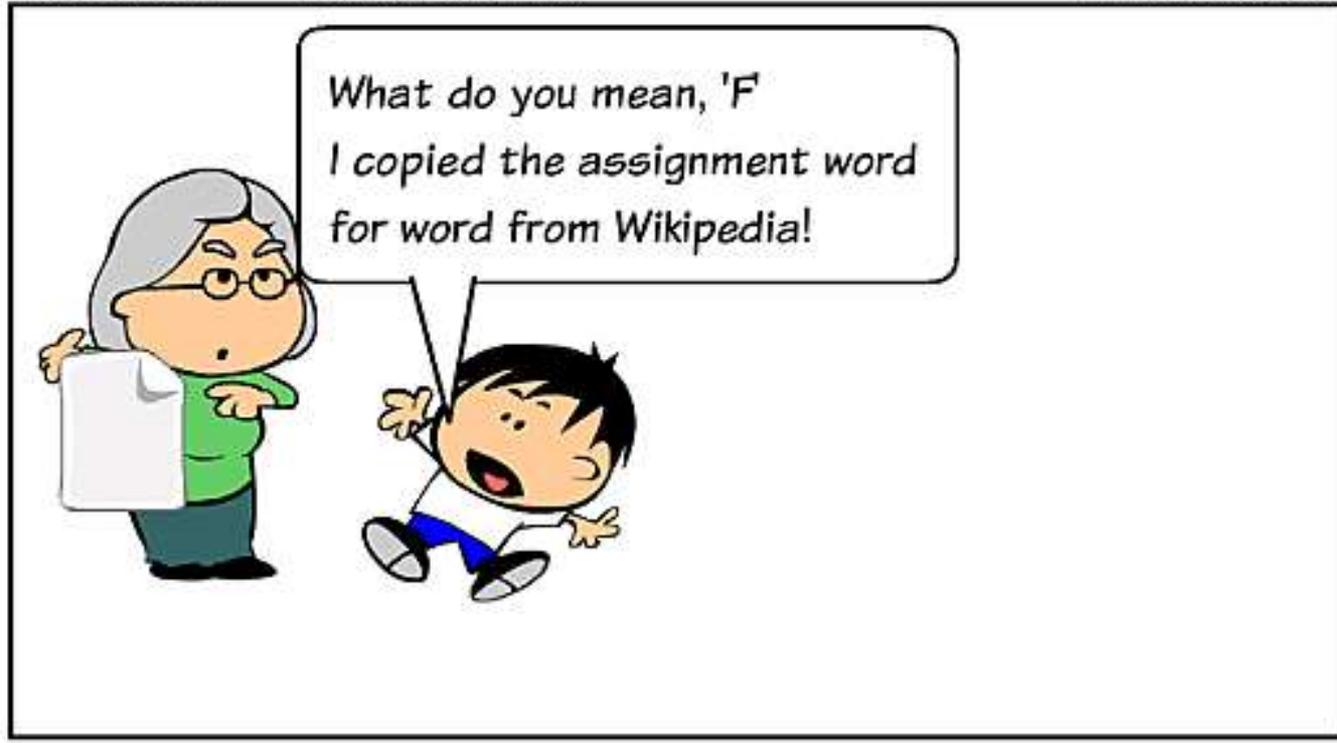
- Dictionary



# PLAGIARISM

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**PLAGIARISM**



**IS THIS YOUR DREAM**

**PLAGIARISM CAN HAVE SERIOUS  
CONSEQUENCES!**



**BE  
ORIGINAL  
AND  
DON'T  
PLAGIARIZE**

2 April 2012 Last updated at 14:02 GMT



## Hungary President Schmitt quits in plagiarism scandal

**Hungary's President Pal Schmitt says he is resigning, after being stripped of his doctorate over plagiarism.**

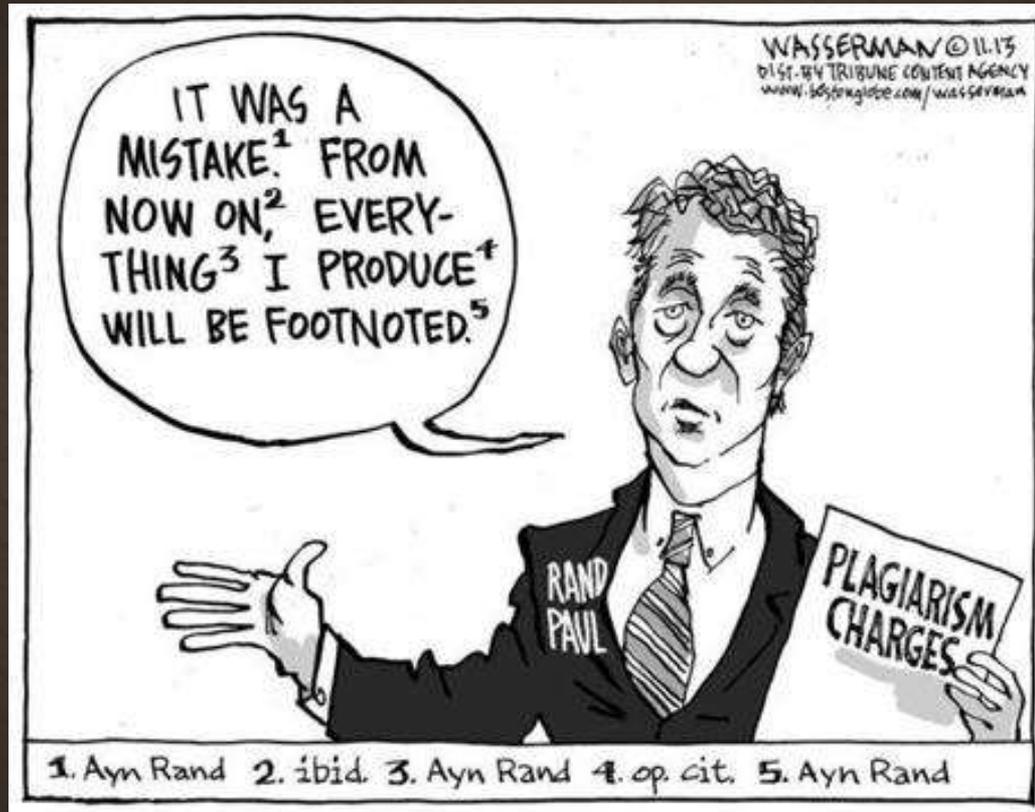
Mr Schmitt, elected in 2010, said "my personal issue divides my beloved nation rather than unites it".

"It is my duty to end my service and resign my mandate as president," he told parliament.

Last week, Budapest's Semmelweis University revoked his 1992 award after finding that much of his thesis had been



# PLAGIARISM



# SO WHAT IS A SOURCE?

A source is any person or content from which you get information that you use in your content (regardless of credibility).

- 💡 - Scholarly journals and books (online or printed)
- 💡 - websites or any online content
- 💡 - Newspapers & magazines
- 💡 - A colleague or a classmate you ask
- 💡 - Television show

# ...AND WHAT IS A CITATION?

A citation simply means clearly giving credit where credit is due and tells the readers where the information comes from. In your paper, you cite or refer to the source of information.

# ...AND A REFERENCE?

A reference gives the readers details about the source so that they understand what kind of source it is (to judge credibility among other things) and how to find the source themselves if necessary. The references are typically listed at the end of the writing.

# A GOOD CITATION?

Good citations indicate the author, title and publication information for the used source, which words/ideas come from which sources... When you shift from your own words & ideas to the ones of another Include source writer's name and signal phrase.  
*(in-text citations or footnote/endnote notations)*

# COMMON KNOWLEDGE

Common knowledge is a well-known fact or an Information that appears in several known sources making familiar to large numbers of people or to professionals in a given field.

E.g.:

- *Riyadh is the capital city of KSA*
- *Cell nucleus contains DNA*
- *Water freezes at 0 degrees Celsius*



# COMMON KNOWLEDGE

Common knowledge statements are the only time you do not have to cite information, provided that you do not copy that information word-for-word from a source.

**If in doubt, cite it!**



# WHY CITING SOURCES IS IMPORTANT?

- 💡 For the sake of honesty & to give due credit
- 💡 To show that research and content are credible
- 💡 To prove the relevance/importance of the topic

# WHY DO HUMANS PLAGIARIZE?

- 💡 We don't know why it is important to cite sources
- 💡 We lack confidence in our own ideas & language
- 💡 We actually can't answer the writing assignment
- 💡 We don't know how to use citations (MLA, APA,

# PLAGIARISM

## *Actions that might be seen as plagiarism*

Buying, stealing, or  
borrowing a paper

Using the source too  
closely when  
paraphrasing

Hiring someone to  
write your paper

Building on someone's  
ideas without citation

Copying from another source without citing  
(on purpose or by accident)

**Deliberate  
Plagiarism**

**Possibly Accidental  
Plagiarism**



GOOD THEFT	VS.	BAD THEFT
HONOR		DEGRADE
STUDY		SKIM
STEAL FROM MANY		STEAL FROM ONE
CREDIT		PLAGIARIZE
TRANSFORM		IMITATE
REMIX		RIP OFF

**Plagiarism**

**NO!**

**Inspiration**

**YES!**

## 10 TYPES OF PLAGIARISM ORDERED FROM MOST TO LEAST SEVERE



### 1. CLONE:

An act of submitting another's work, word-for-word, as one's own.

Wholesale



### 2. CTRL-C:

A written piece that contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations.

Patchwork



### 3. FIND-REPLACE:

The act of changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source in a paper.



### 4. REMIX:

An act of paraphrasing from other sources and making the content fit together seamlessly.

Idea-based



### 5. RECYCLE:

The act of borrowing generously from one's own previous work without citation; To self plagiarize.



### 6. HYBRID:

The act of combining perfectly cited sources with copied passages—without citation—in one paper.



### 7. MASHUP:

A paper that represents a mix of copied material from several different sources without proper citation.



### 8. 404 ERROR:

A written piece that includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources



### 9. AGGREGATOR:

The "Aggregator" includes proper citation, but the paper contains almost no original work.

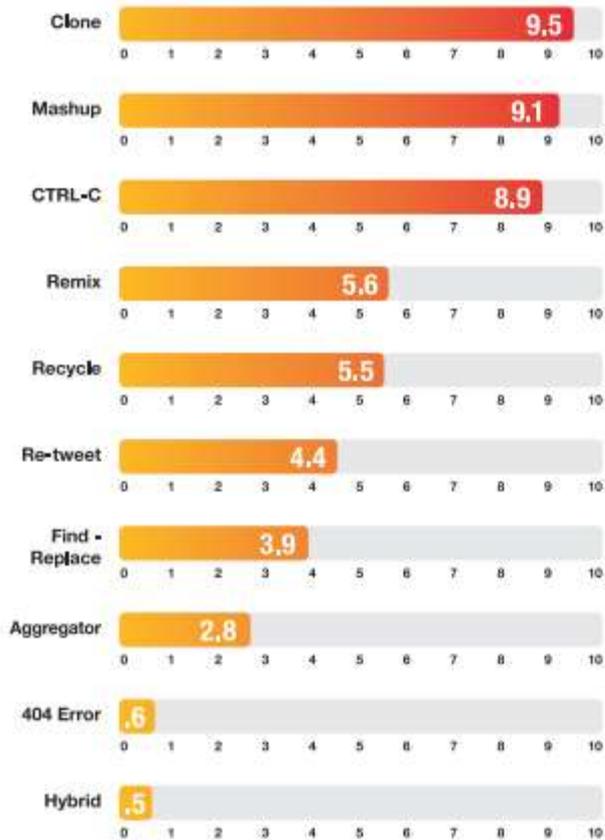


### 10. RE-TWEET:

This paper includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text's original wording and/or structure.

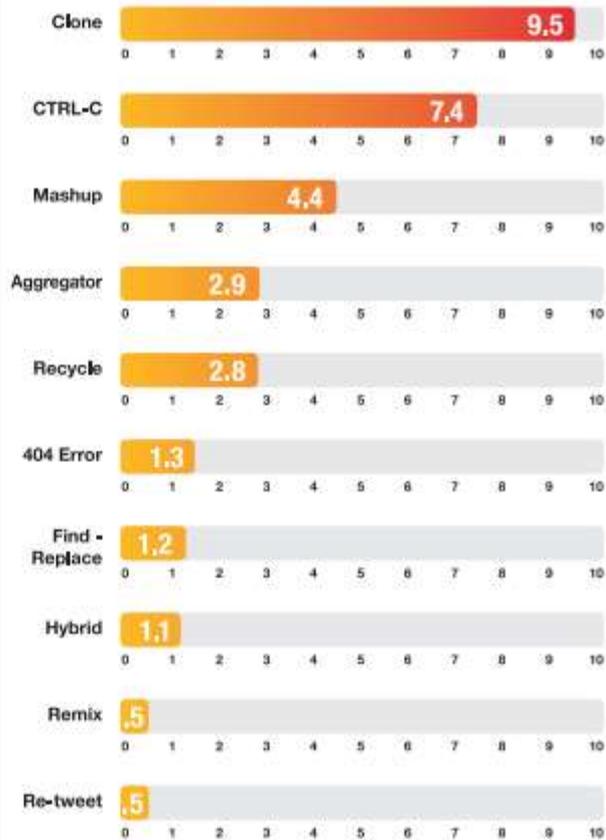
## Frequency

Less Frequent  
Most Frequent



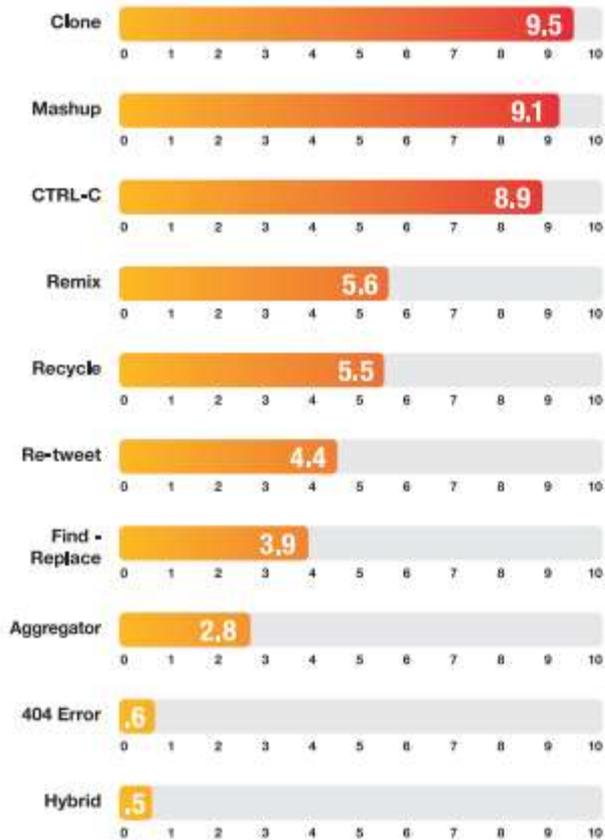
## Problematic

Less Concern  
Most Concern



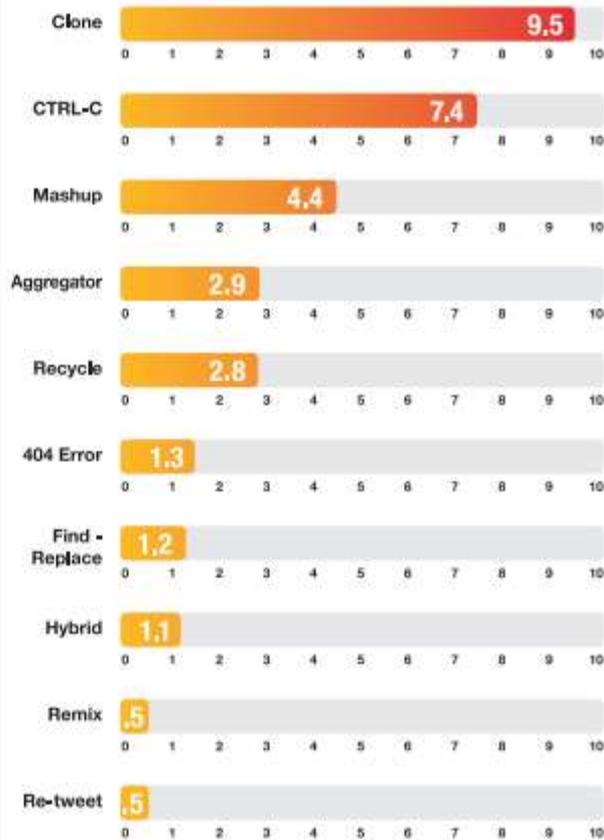
## Frequency

Less Frequent  
Most Frequent



## Problematic

Less Concern  
Most Concern





## Clone

Submitting another's work, word-for-word, as one's own

Frequency



Problematic



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### A Natural Setting

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## CTRL-C

Contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

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### The Beautiful Yosemite Valley

From the time of its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, possession on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. And Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, while perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.



## Find - Replace

Changing key words and phrases but retaining the essential content of the source

Frequency



Problematic



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### A Beautiful Setting in Yosemite

Since its first discovery by non-native people in the mid-19th century Yosemite Valley has held a special, even sacred, hold on the American psyche because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mindset, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing political movements, migration patterns and environmental issues as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.



## Remix

Paraphrases from multiple sources, made to fit together

Frequency



Problematic



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### An Untouched View

*A History of Settlement and Change in Yosemite Valley*

The first non-natives to see Yosemite Valley were probably members of the mid-nineteenth century Joseph Walker Party, who crossed the Sierra Nevada from East to West. The first descriptions of Yosemite came almost 20 years later. From the start, the valley has been renowned for its natural beauty, and highly regarded as the centerpiece of Yosemite National Park, attracting visitors from around the world. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.



# Recycle

Borrows generously from the writer's previous work without citation



## A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

## Ecology 201:

### An Unnatural Expectation

*The Impact of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

From its first discovery by the Ahwahnechee in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a unique, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time reflecting changing politics, human migration patterns and the rise of environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.



## Hybrid

Combines perfectly cited sources with copied passages without citation



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

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### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. "Native Americans have lived in the Yosemite region for as long as 8,000 years. The first people that we have record of was a band of Native Americans that called the Valley "Ah-wah-nee" and themselves the Ahwahnechee."<sup>1</sup> While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

<sup>1</sup> "Yosemite Valley." Wikipedia. Wikipedia. 20 Apr. 2012.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yosemite\\_Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yosemite_Valley)



# Mashup

Mixes copied material from multiple sources



Original

Unoriginal

## A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

## A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience. The work of Ayres gave easterners an appreciation for Yosemite Valley and started a movement to preserve it. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature. The 1849 California Gold Rush led to conflicts between miners and natives, and the volunteer Mariposa Battalion was formed by the state of California as a punitive expedition against natives in the Yosemite area.



## 404 Error

Includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources

Frequency



Problematic



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### Perceived Beauty: Man's Nature

*Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

"Since its first discovery by the Joseph Walker Party in the mid-nineteenth century"<sup>1</sup> "Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all "special temples of Nature."<sup>2</sup> "While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For an insightful discussion of Walker's expedition, including an extended description of their first sight of Yosemite Valley, see Walker's original piece in *The Golden Times*, May 5, 1833 : p. 4. Print.

<sup>2</sup> Bloom, H. "Aesthetics of the Found: The 'Nature' of the Natural." *Aesthetics and the Found*. November 2000 : 18-22. Print.

<sup>3</sup> Huang et al. "Politics, Policy, and the Environment." *Nature and Society*. 25.3 (1997) : 127-53. Print.



## Aggregator

Includes proper citation to sources but the paper contains almost no original work

Frequency

2.8



Problematic

2.9



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*<sup>1</sup>

Yosemite Valley was first sighted by non-Indians in 1833 by Joseph Rutherford Walker and his group of explorers.<sup>2</sup> Yosemite has a long and diverse cultural history that helped to shape the region, country, and even the world.<sup>3</sup> While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to their relationship and impact on nature.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harrick, C. "A Natural Setting." *Nature and its Discontents* 23.1 (1996) : 41-50. Print.

<sup>2</sup> "History of Yosemite," *Yosemitegold.com Ace & Friends*, n.d. Web. 24 Apr. 2012. <<http://www.yosemitegold.com/yosemite/history.html>>

<sup>3</sup> "Yosemite National Park Cultural History," *Yosemitepark.com DNC Parks and Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.*, n.d. Web. 24 Apr. 2012. <<http://www.yosemitepark.com/cultural-history.aspx>>

<sup>4</sup> Harrick, C. "A Natural Setting," p. 41.



http://pages.turnitin.com/plagiarism\_spectrum.html

#10



## Re-tweet

Includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text's original wording and/or structure

Frequency



Problematic



Original

Unoriginal

### A Natural Setting

*A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley*

Since its first discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century, Yosemite Valley has held a special, even religious, hold on the American conscience because its beauty makes it an incomparable valley and one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite holds a special grip on the western mind, perceptions about the Valley have evolved over time due to changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as man has become more attuned to his relationship and impact on nature.

### A History of Exploration and Settlement in Yosemite Valley

From its earliest discovery by non-indigenous people in the mid-nineteenth century Yosemite Valley has held a spiritual hold on the American conscience; its beauty is incomparable and has been held up as one of the grandest of all special temples of Nature. While Yosemite has a special grip on the western mind, impressions about the Valley have evolved over time, shaped by changing politics, migration patterns and environmental concerns as mankind has become more attuned to its relationship and impact on nature.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harriek, C. "A Natural Setting." *Nature and its Discontents* 23.1 (1996) : 41-50. Print.

# PARAPHRASE?

When you paraphrase, your objective is to rewrite a statement with a different structure and using different words without altering the original meaning and organization of the content.

# PARAPHRASE?

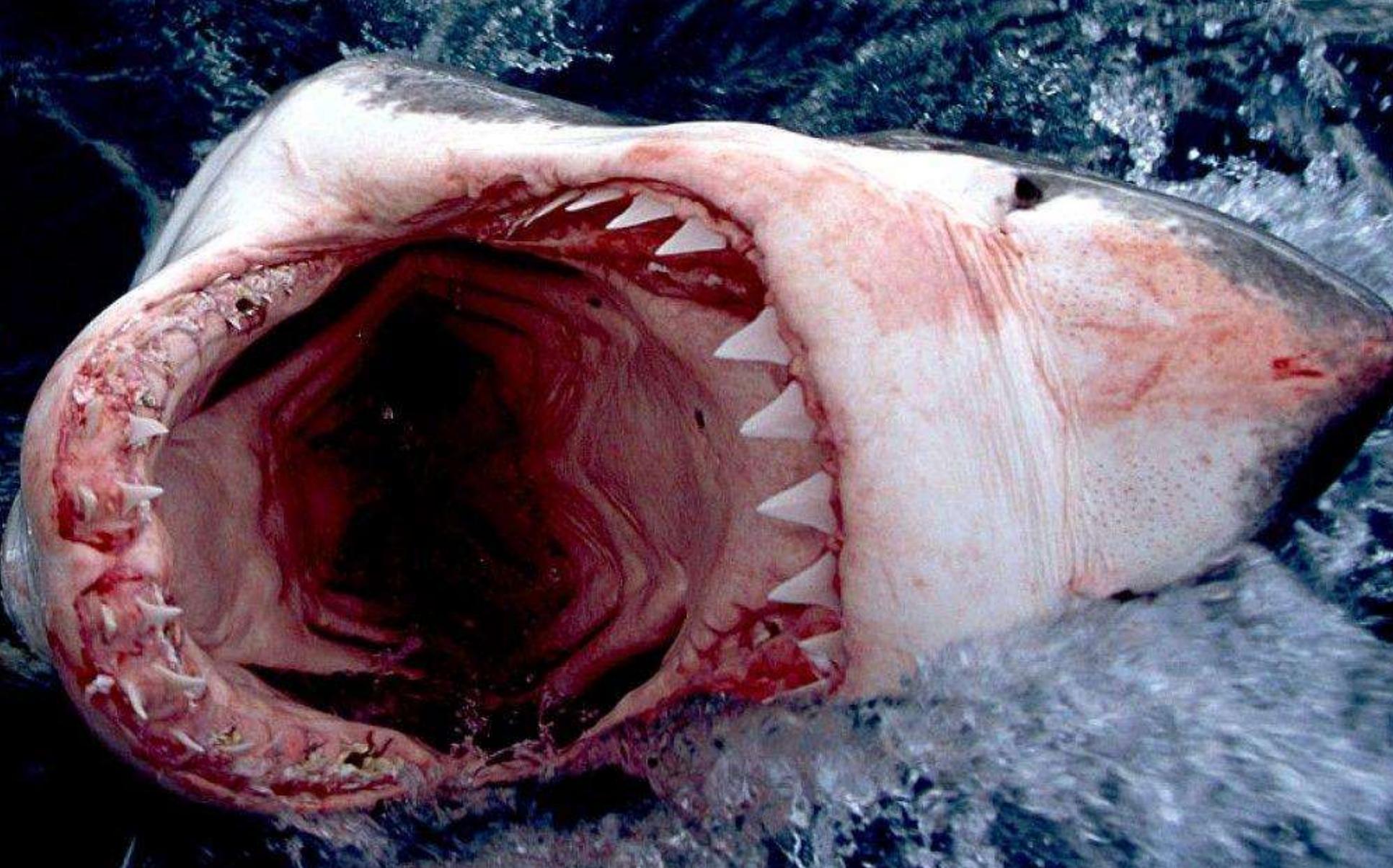
When you paraphrase, your objective is to rewrite a statement with a different structure and using different words without altering the original meaning and organization of the content.

I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE ANOTHER'S WORK  
I WILL NOT PLAGIARIZE



**FIND WAYS TO PREVENT YOURSELF  
FROM PLAGIARIZING!**







Tips &  
Tricks

**SOME TIPS AND TRICKS**

# Avoid redundant words

- Because of the fact / Due to the fact
- Basically, actually, generally kind of
- As we all know
- Each and every
- The end result / the final outcome



- ⚠ - **Write in active voice (example?)**
- **Take care with pronouns** (is it clear what your 'it' refers to?)
- **Make it formal** (Use discipline specific language/Jargon, Avoid: strongly emotive language, slang/chat language, Abbreviations and contractions too).



# Avoiding Conscious Plagiarism

- ⚠ Do not procrastinate → start ASAP!
- ⚠ If you can, find a subject that really interests you
- ⚠ Use prewriting strategies we cited (*Brainstorming, free-writing...*)
- ⚠ Realize how easy it is to discover a plagiarized paper
- ⚠ Realize the severity & seriousness of the consequences of dishonesty



# Avoiding Unintentional Plagiarism

Along with the tips cited previously to avoid intentional plagiarism consider:

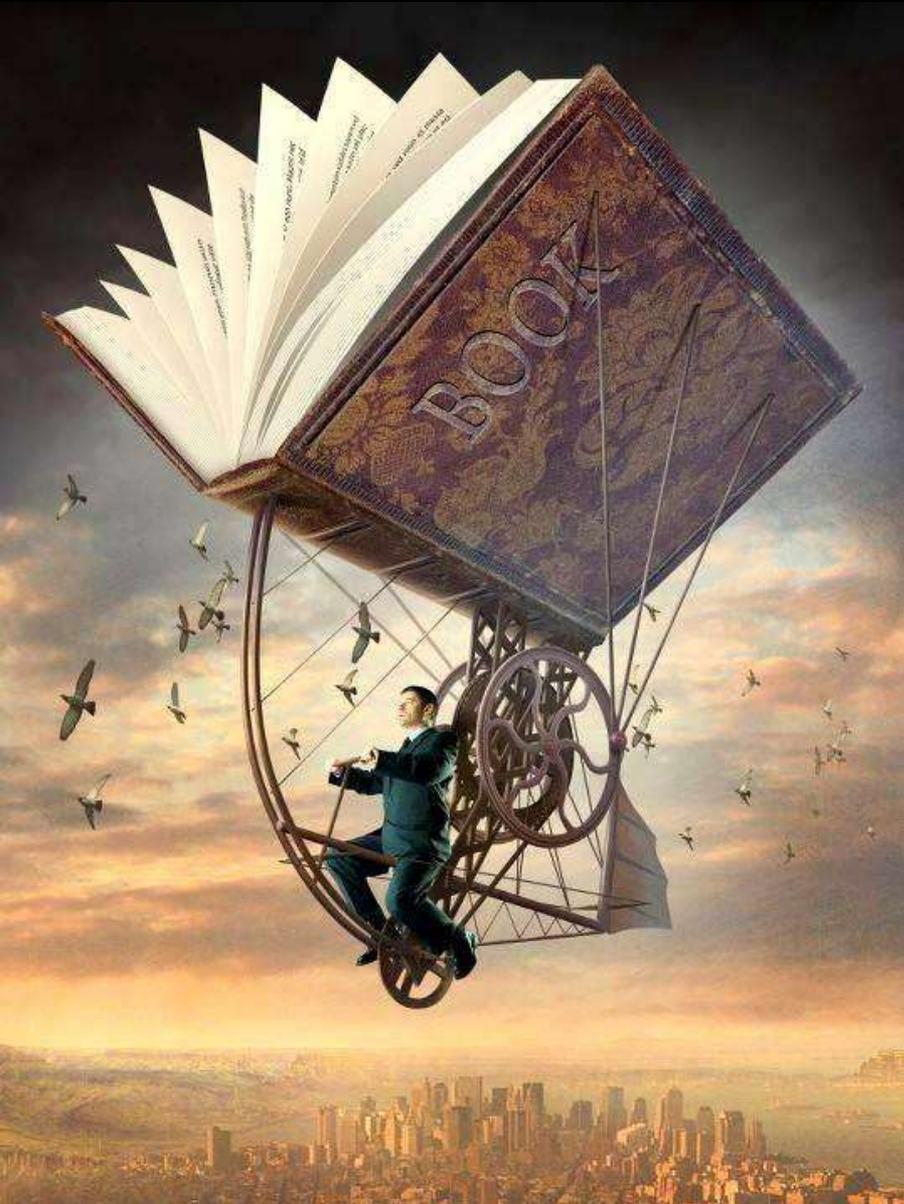
1. Taking careful notes
2. Following a structured note-taking procedure.
3. Being very careful while copying and pasting



# Avoiding Unintentional Plagiarism

4. Indicate clearly which ideas are your ideas and which ideas are not (color code)
5. Save draft versions of your writing
6. Use online resources and tools to detect plagiarism
7. Don't forget the quotation marks & the





**READING  
IS ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA!  
BOOKS WILL TAKE YOU PLACES!**

PAST



**FUTURE**



# ONLINE MATERIAL AND RESOURCES

- <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/brainstorming/>
- <http://www.wikihow.com/Evaluate-the-Credibility-of-a-Source>
- <http://writingcenter.appstate.edu/sites/writingcenter.appstate.edu/files/Credible%20v%20Non-Credible%20Sources13.pdf>
- <http://www.turnitin.com/>
- <https://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity/students>

**I hope that soon we will have our own resources and policies here at the SEU**



**THANKS FOR YOUR TIME**

# QUESTIONS? FUTURE REQUESTS?





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