Why is plagiarism important? Who *really cares*?

- Plagiarism is **theft** of intellectual property.

- Plagiarism is **cheating**.

- Plagiarism may result in receiving **a failing grade or zero** for the assignment. Plagiarism could result in a disciplinary referral. Students caught plagiarizing may be denied admittance to or removal from the National Honor Society.

Some of the things that you think you know about plagiarism may be wrong.

- It does not matter if the person whose work you have cited is alive or dead. If it is not your own idea, you must cite your source!

- If you translate or paraphrase something, you must still give a citation.

- If you use a picture from the Internet, you must cite the source.

Two types of plagiarism

- **Intentional**

  - Copying a friend's work

  - Buying or borrowing papers

  - Cutting and pasting blocks of text from electronic sources without documenting

  - Media "borrowing" without documentation

  - Web publishing without permissions of creators

- **Unintentional**

  - Careless paraphrasing

  - Poor documentation

  - Quoting excessively

  - Failure to use your own "voice"

Use these three strategies

- Quoting

- Paraphrasing

- Summarizing

To blend source materials in with your own, making sure your own voice is heard.

Quoting

Quotations are the exact words of an author, copied directly from a source, word for word. Quotations must be cited!

Use quotations when:

- You want to add the power of an author's words to support your argument

- You want to disagree with an author's argument

- You want to highlight particularly eloquent or powerful phrases or passages

- You are comparing and contrasting specific points of view

- You want to note the important research that precedes your own

- Quotations should be used sparingly. They must be exact, word-for-word as they appear in the original document.

- Quotes require a citation in addition to the use of quote marks.

- Every quoted word needs to be cited. Even a short phrase or single word must be quoted and cited if it is unusual.

- "pretzel logic"

- "clandestine coup"

Quotations must be attributed to the original author and the source that you used.

- For example:

- If you use the phrase, "Fourscore and twenty years ago, our forefathers . . ." you must give credit to Abraham Lincoln and the book in which he is quoted.

- Lincoln, Abraham. Gettysburg Address. In Lincoln at Gettysburg: the Words that Remade America, Garry Wills. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1992.

Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing means rephrasing the words of an author, putting his/her thoughts in your own words. When you paraphrase, you rework the source's ideas, words, phrases, and sentence structures with your own. Like quotations, paraphrased material must be followed with in-text documentation and cited on your Works-Cited page.

Paraphrase when:

- You plan to use information on your note cards and wish to avoid plagiarizing

- You want to avoid overusing quotations

- You want to use your own voice to present information

Examples:

- **Source:** Unless steps are taken to provide a predictable and stable energy supply in the face of growing demand, the nation may be in danger of sudden power losses or even extended blackouts, thus damaging our industrial and information-based economies. ‑ John Doe, 1999, p.231.

- **Inadequate paraphrase:** Doe (1999) recommends that the government take action to provide a predictable and stable energy supply because of constantly growing demand. Otherwise, we may be in danger of losing power or even experiencing extended blackouts. These circumstances could damage our industrial and information-based economy. (p.231).

Summarizing

- **Summarizing involves putting the main idea(s) of one or several writers into your own words, including only the main point(s). Summaries are significantly shorter than the original and take a broad overview of the source material. Again, it is necessary to attribute summarized ideas to their original sources.**

Summarize when:

- You want to establish background or offer an overview of a topic

- You want to describe knowledge (from several sources) about a topic

- You want to determine the main ideas of a single source