

What it takes to avoid **plagiarism**

Academic Support Centre

21 August 2014

You come late. When you arrive, others have long preceded you, and they are engaged in a heated discussion, a discussion too heated for them to pause and tell you exactly what it's about....You listen for a while, until you decide that you have caught the tenor of the argument; then you put in your oar. Someone answers; you answer him; another comes to your defense; another aligns himself against you....The hour grows late, you must depart. And you do depart, with the discussion still vigorously in progress.

-Kenneth Burke

**What is
plagiarism?**



LUND
UNIVERSITY

2012 policy says...

“Plagiarism is a lack of independence in the design and/or wording of academic work presented by a student compared to the level of independence required by the educational context.”



LUND
UNIVERSITY

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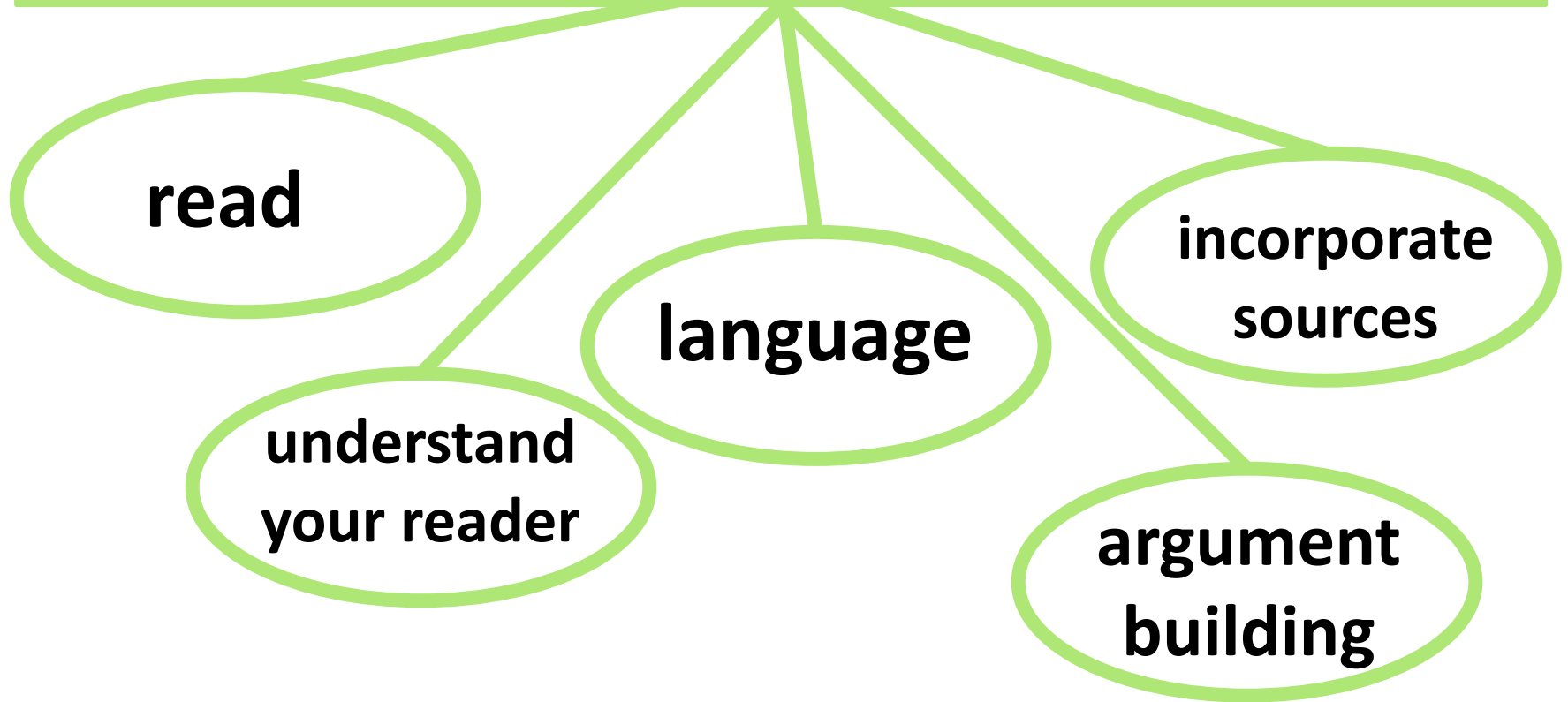
“Deceitful plagiarism is a lack of independence combined with an intent on the part of the student to present the work of others as his or her own.”

Remember...

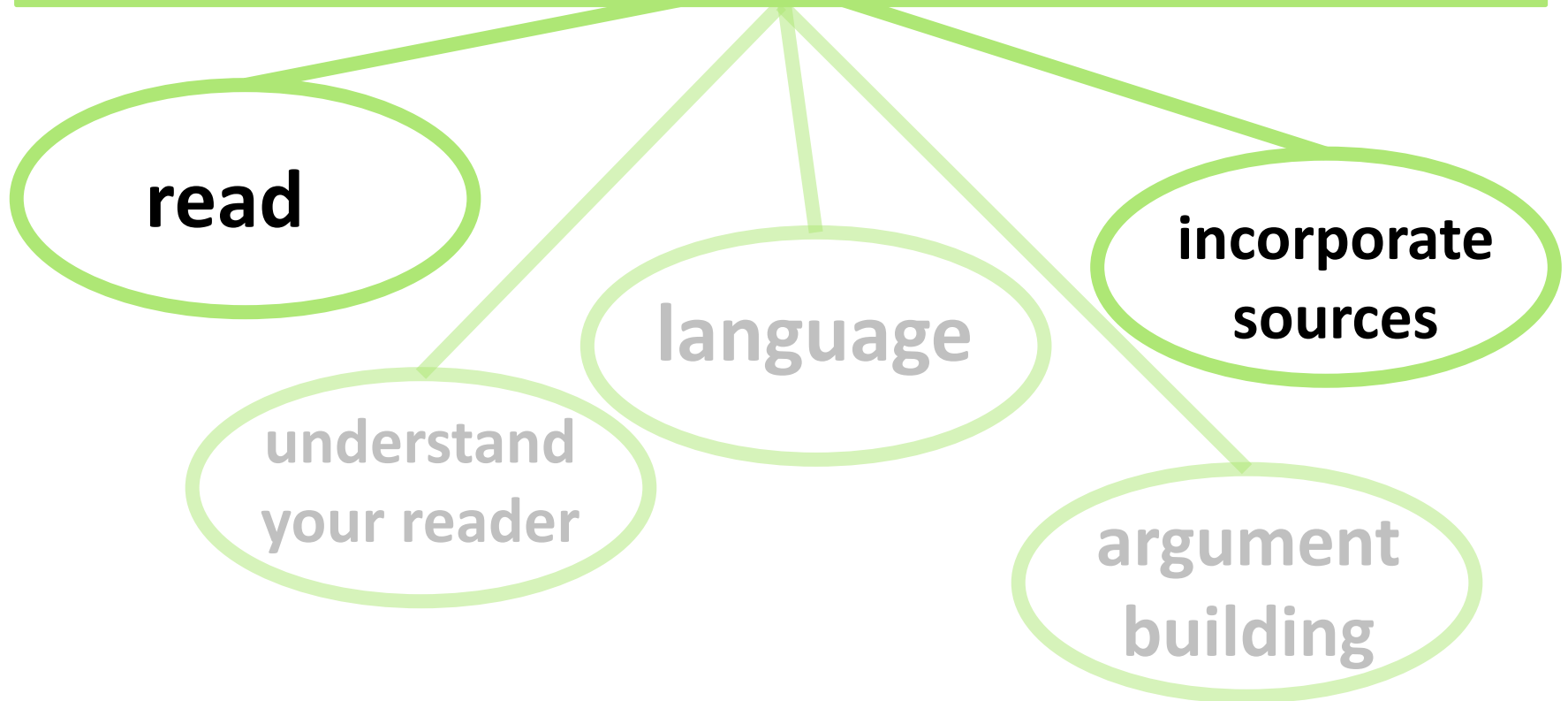
The **goal** of academic writing is not to avoid plagiarism.

The **goal** is to make a claim about a topic, discuss that claim with and in relation to others and through that discussion to advance research and thinking in your field.

In order to accomplish that **goal** you have to first be able to do some other things successfully. And it just so happens that if you can do those things, you will avoid plagiarizing altogether.



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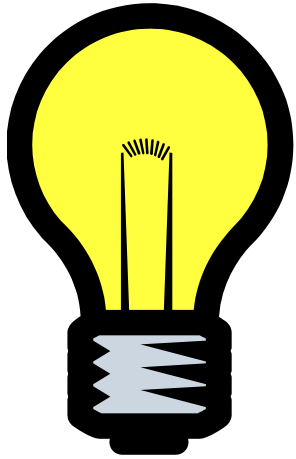
read

- identify claims in others' texts and their strengths and weaknesses
- evaluate others' argumentation
- decipher the conversation others engage in
- assess writing norms in your field

read

to understand the source

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Tip!

When taking notes, don't focus on the text's sentence level. Research shows that **sentence-mining** is all too common among current students.

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72 01 28

1

Never done it before. Not at all confident.

2

Have limited experience with this. Don't feel hopeless, but don't feel so confident either.

3

It depends. My confidence is unpredictable, often depending on the difficulty of the text I'm reading.

4

I feel confident more often than not, but my confidence level could always be higher.

5

Totally confident, no question.

**incorporate
sources**

- Summarize
- Paraphrase
- Quote
- Reference

**incorporate
sources**

**Focuses on main
ideas in the text
as a whole**

- Summarize
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**Rewording of a
sentence-level
detail in a source's
text**

Original

The debate about Whorf's ideas has, until now, been mostly conducted in the context of the psycholinguistic empirical research tradition which grew out of anthropological inquiry into the relationships between the language and other aspects of culture in the 1940s and 1950s.

Lee, P (1999). *The Whorf Theory Complex*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. P. 27.

Paraphrase

Our understanding of Whorf's work developed mainly from studies in other areas. Some of these studies were about the connection between language and culture. These studies were done by anthropologists between 1940 and 1960. Whorf's ideas have been looked at in terms of the scientific work done in psycholinguistics since then (Lee, 1999, p. 27)

Example from:

Davies, M. (2011). *Study Skills for International Postgraduates*. L New York: Palgrave Macmillan, p. 54-59

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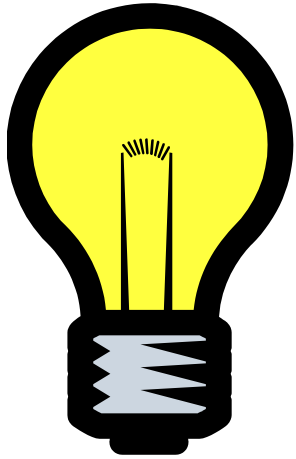
Summary

Lee (1999, p. 27) claims that Whorf's work derived from research in language and culture in the 1940s and 1950s.

**incorporate
sources**

- Summarize
- Paraphrase
- Quote
- Reference

**Source's exact
words in quotation
marks.**



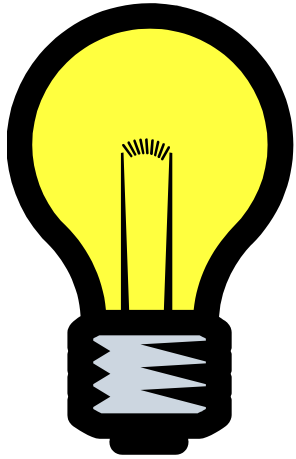
Tip!

Summarize and paraphrase
more than quote directly.

**incorporate
sources**

- Summarize
- Paraphrase
- Quote
- Reference

**Acknowledgment of
source use both in-
text and in a
reference list**



Tip!

Ask a librarian about
researching and
referencing!

Original:

The two most important legal systems in the Western World today are the English Common Law and the Roman Civil Law. Countries such as Australia and the United States have inherited the Common Law (Brennan and Marantelli, 1980, p. 175).

Student's:

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Student's:

The two most important legal systems in the Western World today are the English Common Law and the Roman Civil Law. The impact of these systems on a number of first-world countries around the world has been considerable. According to Brennan and Marantelli, “countries such as Australia and the United States have inherited the Common Law (Brennan and Marantelli, 1980, p. 175).

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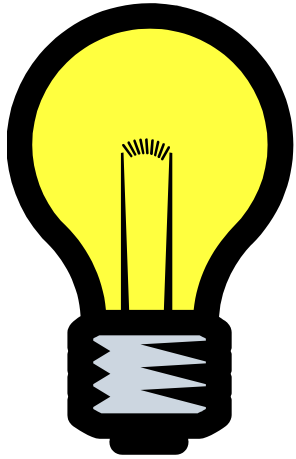
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The two most important legal systems in the Western World today are the English Common Law and the Roman Civil Law. Countries such as Australia and the United States have inherited the Common Law (Brennan and Marantelli, 1980, p. 175).

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In the western world today two legal systems predominate. These are known as English Common Law and Roman Civil Law. The impact of these systems on a number of first-world countries around the world has been considerable. Developed countries such as the USA and Australia gained the use of Common Law by inheriting it from earlier decisions of courts and similar tribunals (Brennan and Marantelli, 1980, p. 175).



Tip!

A proper paraphrase uses less than 20% of source's language. More than 20% and you approach patchwriting territory.

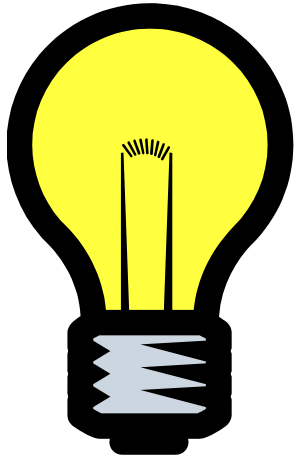
Table 5.2 Sample From Source Text and Student Paper

Paraphrase

Patchwriting

	Student text (page 6 of paper)	Source text (page 2 of source)
(1)	Evidence of a jump in interest can be seen in a jump from 258 journal articles that were published in 1996 on the subject of cannabis , to over 2,100 studies that were published in scientific journals in 2008 (Recent Research on Medicinal Marijuana).	A keyword search using the terms "cannabis, 1996" (the year California voters became the first of 14 states to allow for the drug's medical use under state law) reveals just 258 scientific journal articles published on the subject during that year. Perform this same search for the year 2008 , and one will find over 2,100 published scientific studies .
(2)	Most importantly, investigators are now studying the anti-cancer properties of cannabinoids . There is an increasing amount of preclinical and clinical data that conclude that cannabinoids stop the spreading of specific cancer cells through programmed cell death and the prevention of the forming of new blood vessels (Recent Research on Medicinal Marijuana).	Investigators are also studying the anti-cancer activities of cannabis, as a growing body of preclinical and clinical data concludes that cannabinoids can reduce the spread of specific cancer cells via apoptosis (programmed cell death) and by the inhibition of angiogenesis (the formation of new blood vessels).
STUDENT CITATION: "Recent Research on Medical Marijuana." NORML, April 1, 2009. www.norml.org/Index.cfm?Group_ID=7002.		

From Jamieson, S. and R.M. Howard (2013). "Sentence-Mining: Uncovering the Amount of Reading and Reading Comprehension in College Writers' Researched Writing." *The New Digital Scholar: exploring and enriching the research and writing practices of NextGen students*. New Jersey: American Society for Information Science and Technology. P. 109-131



Tip!

Plagiarism is often easily detectable by shifts in language quality. It's better to use your own words with grammatical mistakes than take text without mistakes as your own. Plagiarism is a much worse offense than poor grammar.

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Resources

The Harvard Guide to Source Use

<http://usingsources.fas.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do>

AWELU

<http://awelu.srv.lu.se/>

Recognizing and Avoiding Plagiarism Quiz

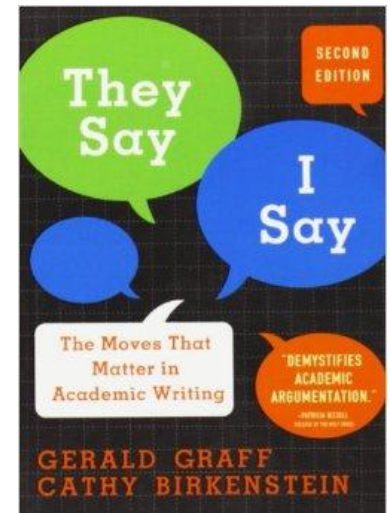
Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences

<https://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/exercises/questions.cfm>

They Say/I Say:

The Moves That Matter in Persuasive Writing

By Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein



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**Academic
writing**

Presenting

Study skills