

Credit the Source

Use citations and original wording to build trustworthy social studies writing.

8.30.B “use effective written communication skills, including proper citations and avoiding plagiarism;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each sentence that uses information or words from a source. Circle the citation that tells readers where that information came from.

Writing About the Dust Bowl

- ① In my Dust Bowl report, I wrote the following sentence: During the 1930s, drought and wind erosion damaged farms across the Great Plains (PBS, 2012). I put the source in parentheses right after the fact it supports. The words are mine, but the information came from a documentary article. At the end of the report, my source list gives enough details for a reader to find it: PBS. *The Dust Bowl*. 2012. A citation shows where an idea began, even when I restate it.
- ② A direct quotation needs quotation marks and a citation. For example, President Franklin D. Roosevelt warned, “The nation that destroys its soil destroys itself” (Roosevelt, 1937). I used only the words needed and named the speaker. My source list identifies the item: Roosevelt, Franklin D. *Letter to State Governors*. February 26, 1937. Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library. Copying a full sentence without quotation marks would make readers think I wrote it.
- ③ To paraphrase, I read a source, look away, and explain its idea in a new sentence. A Library of Congress collection describes families leaving the Great Plains during the Dust Bowl to seek work (Library of Congress, n.d.). My paraphrase might be: Many people left drought-stricken farm areas and traveled west hoping to find jobs (Library of Congress, n.d.). Changing only a few words, copying a sentence, or leaving out the citation can be plagiarism. Checking my draft helps me credit every source.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

- 1 Copy the complete first sentence of paragraph 1, including its citation.

- 2 What two features in paragraph 2 show that Roosevelt's exact words are credited?

- 3 Paragraph 3 lists three actions that can be plagiarism. Name the two actions that use a source's exact or nearly exact wording.

- 4 What should you do before writing a paraphrase, and what should you include with the paraphrase?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Use this source fact: The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1920 and says that voting rights cannot be denied because of sex (National Archives, n.d.). Write exactly two sentences. First, paraphrase the fact in your own words and cite it. Second, explain why the citation is needed.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each sentence that uses information or words from a source. Circle the citation that tells readers where that information came from. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the complete first sentence of paragraph 1, including its citation.	In my Dust Bowl report, I wrote the following sentence: During the 1930s, drought and wind erosion damaged farms across the Great Plains (PBS, 2012).
2	What two features in paragraph 2 show that Roosevelt's exact words are credited?	Quotation marks surround the exact words, and a parenthetical citation follows them.
3	Paragraph 3 lists three actions that can be plagiarism. Name the two actions that use a source's exact or nearly exact wording.	Changing only a few words and copying a sentence.
4	What should you do before writing a paraphrase, and what should you include with the paraphrase?	Read the source, look away, and explain the idea in a new sentence. Include a citation.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment stopped states from denying a citizen the right to vote because of sex (National Archives, n.d.). I included the citation because the amendment's date and meaning came from that source.

Accept equivalent wording for the short answers when it accurately identifies the cited writing practice. For the open response, accept any accurate two-sentence paraphrase that uses original wording, includes a parenthetical citation, and explains that the source supplied the information.