Credit Counts

Read how researchers use sources honestly and lawfully.

10.R.1.G "Define the meaning and legal consequences of plagiarism and follow ethical and legal guidelines for gathering and using information."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the two sentences that explain why plagiarism is unethical or can have consequences. Circle four actions Maya takes to gather or use information ethically and legally.

Maya Builds a Responsible Podcast

1. For a podcast episode about city heat islands, Maya gathers information from a university climate report, a local news interview, and a government data page. She records each source's author, title, date, link, and the date she viewed it. In her notes, she puts exact words in quotation marks and writes paraphrases in her own words. These habits help her trace every claim. She also checks whether a website names its author, supports claims with evidence, and has a purpose beyond selling a product. Reliable research begins before drafting.

2. While drafting, Maya cannot copy a reporter's sentences and place them in her script without quotation marks and credit. Presenting another person's words, ideas, images, or structure as her own is plagiarism. Even when she changes a few words, a borrowed idea needs attribution. Plagiarism is an ethical violation because it hides the creator's work and misleads an audience about who did the research. Schools, publishers, and employers may respond with consequences such as a failing grade, loss of trust, rejection of work, or discipline under their policies.

3. Credit does not automatically give Maya permission to reuse every item she finds online. Copyright law protects many original works, including articles, photographs, videos, and graphics. Copying or sharing protected material without permission can create legal consequences, depending on the use and the law. She looks for a license, follows its terms, requests permission when needed, and uses public-domain material only after confirming its status. For a short quotation, she cites the source and uses only what supports her point. She does not assume that material is free simply because it appears in a search result.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. According to the passage, what makes borrowed material plagiarism, even if a writer changes some of its words?

2. State one ethical harm caused by plagiarism and one possible school or work consequence.

3. What five details does Maya record for each source, and how do those details help her?

4. Why must Maya do more than cite an online photograph before using it? Name two actions she can take.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a research topic. In exactly two sentences and 55 to 75 words, name a credible source you would use, describe one fact you would paraphrase, explain how you would cite it, and state how you would legally handle one image, chart, or quotation.

ANSWER KEY

Credit Counts

GRADE 10 · 10.R.1.G

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the two sentences that explain why plagiarism is unethical or can have consequences. Circle four actions Maya takes to gather or use information ethically and legally. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	According to the passage, what makes borrowed material plagiarism, even if a writer changes some of its words?	**It is plagiarism when a writer presents another person's words, ideas, images, or structure as their own without attribution.**
2	State one ethical harm caused by plagiarism and one possible school or work consequence.	**It hides the creator's work or misleads the audience about who did the research. A possible consequence is a failing grade, loss of trust, rejection of work, or discipline.**
3	What five details does Maya record for each source, and how do those details help her?	**She records the author, title, date, link, and date viewed. These details help her trace each claim to its source.**
4	Why must Maya do more than cite an online photograph before using it? Name two actions she can take.	**A citation does not automatically give permission to reuse protected material. She can check and follow a license, request permission, or confirm that the photograph is in the public domain.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

For a report on urban trees, I would use the U.S. Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry page and paraphrase its explanation that trees can reduce heat by shading paved surfaces and releasing water vapor. I would cite the agency, page title, URL, and access date, and I would use a Forest Service image only if its license permits reuse or request permission.

Accept equivalent explanations that distinguish ethical attribution from legal permission. For Part 3, verify that the response has exactly two sentences, 55 to 75 words, a credible source, a paraphrased fact, citation details, and a lawful plan for visual or quoted material.