Evidence Without Echoes

Use source words carefully, then make the ideas your own.

8.R.1.D "Quote, summarize, and paraphrase research findings from primary and secondary sources, avoiding plagiarism by using own words and following ethical and legal guidelines."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the exact words borrowed from a source, circle each source note, and write 1, 2, or 3 beside the quotation, paraphrase, and summary. These marks show how writers credit evidence while using different levels of detail.

Studying an Earthquake

(1) Historians studying the 1906 San Francisco earthquake can use a primary source, created by people who investigated the event soon after it happened. In 1908, the California State Earthquake Investigation Commission published a report based on field observations. One researcher quoted its finding: "The earthquake was felt over an area of approximately 372,000 square miles" (Lawson, 1908, p. 7). The quotation uses the report's exact words, quotation marks, and a source note. A writer should quote only wording that matters to the point being made.

(2) A secondary source interprets, compares, or explains information from earlier sources. A recent United States Geological Survey web page describes the 1906 earthquake as having an estimated magnitude of 7.9. Instead of repeating the page's sentence, a student wrote that scientists now estimate the quake's magnitude at about 7.9 (USGS, 2024). This paraphrase keeps the finding but changes the wording and sentence structure. It also credits the USGS, because an idea needs a citation even when no words are copied.

(3) A summary combines important findings into a brief overview. In a study of rain gardens, a writer might state that planted areas reduced storm-water runoff, without listing every measurement. Ethical research also means checking whether a newer source is protected by copyright. Use a short quotation only when needed, and cite every source so readers can locate it. These choices respect both the creator's work and the reader's need to verify information.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the commission's exact finding about the area affected. Include the quotation marks and source note.

2. Write one sentence that paraphrases the commission's finding about the area affected. Include a source note.

3. Write a 15- to 20-word summary that combines the primary-source finding and the USGS finding.

4. A student wants to paste a full paragraph from a recent web source into a report. Based on the passage, describe two actions the student should take instead.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use these practice source cards: Primary, Riverside Transportation Department count report (2025): "Counters recorded 1,240 bicycle trips on May 6." Secondary, River City Times article (2025): "The count was 18 percent higher than in May 2024." Write exactly four sentences: one properly cited direct quotation, one cited paraphrase, one 12- to 18-word summary combining both findings, and one sentence naming an ethical or legal choice you made.

ANSWER KEY

Evidence Without Echoes

GRADE 8 · 8.R.1.D

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the exact words borrowed from a source, circle each source note, and write 1, 2, or 3 beside the quotation, paraphrase, and summary. These marks show how writers credit evidence while using different levels of detail. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the commission's exact finding about the area affected. Include the quotation marks and source note.	**"The earthquake was felt over an area of approximately 372,000 square miles" (Lawson, 1908, p. 7).**
2	Write one sentence that paraphrases the commission's finding about the area affected. Include a source note.	**According to the commission, the earthquake's effects reached about 372,000 square miles (Lawson, 1908, p. 7).**
3	Write a 15- to 20-word summary that combines the primary-source finding and the USGS finding.	**Investigators found that shaking reached a huge area, and later scientists estimated a magnitude of 7.9.**
4	A student wants to paste a full paragraph from a recent web source into a report. Based on the passage, describe two actions the student should take instead.	**The student should check copyright rules and use only a short, needed quotation with a citation.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The report states, "Counters recorded 1,240 bicycle trips on May 6" (Riverside Transportation Department, 2025). The article reports that bicycle trips rose 18 percent from May 2024 to May 2025 (River City Times, 2025). Together, the sources show that May bicycle travel increased compared with the previous year. I used only the needed quotation and cited both sources so readers can trace the information.

Accept accurate paraphrases and summaries that use original wording and retain the source findings. For the open task, check for exactly four sentences, a direct quotation with citation, a changed-wording paraphrase with citation, a 12- to 18-word combined summary, and a valid ethical or legal choice.