Credit Before Copying

Credit sources, respect permissions, and document evidence.

9.R.1.G "Define plagiarism's meaning and legal consequences and follow ethical and legal guidelines for gathering and using information."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the actions that help a researcher use sources ethically. Circle the phrases that describe plagiarism, copyright, licenses, or consequences.

Maya's River Cleanup Podcast

1. When Maya prepared a podcast about the city's river cleanup, she found a museum article, a government water-quality report, and a photographer's image online. A creator deserves credit when you use that person's words, ideas, data, images, music, or video. Plagiarism means presenting someone else's work as your own. It can happen when a writer copies exact language without quotation marks and a citation, or when a writer changes a few words but keeps another source's idea without giving credit in a podcast, essay, or presentation for an audience.

2. Ethical research begins before writing. Maya recorded each source's author, title, date, web address, and the page or section where she found useful details. She checked whether a source was trustworthy by considering who published it, when it was updated, and whether other reliable sources agreed. To use a sentence exactly, she would put it in quotation marks and name the source. To paraphrase, she would read the information, set the source aside, explain the idea fully in her own words, and still cite the source. A citation lets readers trace information back to its creator.

3. Giving credit is an ethical duty, but it can also involve law. Copyright law generally gives creators control over copying and distributing their original expression, though limits and exceptions can apply. A source may offer a Creative Commons license that tells users what they may do, such as reuse an image with attribution. Material in the public domain may be used without copyright permission, but a researcher should still identify its source when appropriate. Copying protected work without permission can lead to takedown requests, lost access, financial damages, or lawsuits. In school, plagiarism can bring academic consequences, such as a failing grade or disciplinary action.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does plagiarism mean? Name two actions from the passage that can cause it.

2. Which details did Maya record for each source, and how did she judge whether a source was trustworthy?

3. How should Maya handle an exact sentence differently from a paraphrase?

4. What do a Creative Commons license and public-domain material tell a researcher? Name one possible legal consequence of copying protected work without permission.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

You are creating a one-slide exhibit about red wolves. Write exactly three sentences explaining how you will gather one fact and one image, use each ethically, and avoid plagiarism or copyright problems. Include a quotation or paraphrase decision and one source-credit detail.

ANSWER KEY

Credit Before Copying

GRADE 9 · 9.R.1.G

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the actions that help a researcher use sources ethically. Circle the phrases that describe plagiarism, copyright, licenses, or consequences. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does plagiarism mean? Name two actions from the passage that can cause it.	**Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as your own. It can result from copying exact language without quotation marks and a citation, or from changing only a few words while using another source's idea without credit.**
2	Which details did Maya record for each source, and how did she judge whether a source was trustworthy?	**She recorded the author, title, date, web address, and relevant page or section. She considered the publisher, the update date, and whether other reliable sources agreed.**
3	How should Maya handle an exact sentence differently from a paraphrase?	**For an exact sentence, she should use quotation marks and name the source. For a paraphrase, she should explain the idea fully in her own words and still cite the source.**
4	What do a Creative Commons license and public-domain material tell a researcher? Name one possible legal consequence of copying protected work without permission.	**A Creative Commons license states allowed uses, such as reuse with attribution. Public-domain material may be used without copyright permission, though its source should be identified when appropriate. A consequence can be a takedown request, lost access, financial damages, or a lawsuit.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I will gather the fact that red wolves are endangered from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service page, record the agency, title, date, URL, and section, then paraphrase it with a citation. I will use a photo only if its Creative Commons license allows reuse, and I will give the photographer the required attribution. These choices credit creators and avoid presenting their work as my own or copying protected material without permission.

Accept equivalent explanations that distinguish quoting from paraphrasing and identify source information used to evaluate credibility. For Part 3, accept any accurate three-sentence plan that includes credit for the fact, permission or a suitable license for the image, and a clear plagiarism-avoidance choice.