What is Plagiarism, and How to Avoid It

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Plagiarism takes many forms:

- Purchasing a paper
- Copying all or part of a website or websites
- Quoting an article or book without referencing the source
- Paraphrasing from an article or book without referencing the source
- All or most of your paper is made up of quotes and paraphrases, with or without referencing the source
First Step

- Start early!
- When you read, identify quotes or sections of text that are useful for your paper
- Summarize these useful sections of the text into your own words
Why Identify Quotes and Write Summaries?
Example: Is Privatization a Bad Deal for Cities and States?

- What does Warner say?
- What does Gelinas say?
- What does Sclar say?
- What does Gilroy say?
- What does Brown say?
Put the text away, put your summary away, and write a new summary of the text

Example:
Warner – outsourcing requires monitoring and creates monopolies.
Gelinas – when short term outsource, does break up monopolies.
Sclar – “when number of interactions is high” keep in-house.
Gilroy – need performance standards in contracts, and assessment by government managers.
Brown – “easy to describe and easy to make”-outsource (office cleaning). Complex products and services are tricky out- or in-sourced.
Third Step and Example

- After reading and writing summaries for several texts, put them all away and write a summary of the topic.

Warner – against – irresponsible, no cost savings.

Gelinas – mostly against – long contracts are bad, London bus service is good.

Sclar - for outsourcing when the task is simple and easily assessed. Otherwise, keep in house.

Brown - for outsourcing when the task is simple, when complex it is tricky either way.

Gilroy favors outsourcing – cost savings, improve quality, monitoring needed.
This is Hard!

- To help you understand the topic:
  - Start early!
  - Read more texts on the topic;
  - Think about the texts and whether you agree with them or find fault with them;
  - Ask classmates and friends to read a text or two, and then talk with you about them.
Fourth Step

- What are the main arguments for public vs. private delivery of services and functions?
- Which are the strongest for you?
- Where do you stand on the topic?
- Where are you in relation to Warner -- Gelin​as -- Sklar -- Brown -- Gilroy
Fifth Step

- State your position and explain why using the texts to support your claims.

- Notice how this differs from quoting and paraphrasing the texts 😊