

'Answers' to paraphrasing examples

Example 1:

This is not acceptable practice because:

- it does not show that it is entirely a direct quotation from the original source
- it does not indicate the source document from which the excerpt was taken.

It is in fact plagiarism.

An acceptable version would be:

"..in the British case, those welfare programmes which served the middle class (such as education and health) suffered far less during the new right welfare backlash of the

1980s than did programmes which (almost) exclusively served the poor." (Le Grand and Winter 1987, cited in Wilson 1993 p 144)

Example 2:

This is poor academic practice because:

- although the original author is mentioned, it does not distinguish between the student's own words and those directly quoted from the source text
- it does not indicate that the author mentioned is a cited author rather than the one the student actually read. It is plagiarism.

An acceptable version would be:

In Britain, "those welfare programmes which served the middle class(es).....suffered far less during the new right welfare backlash" than those which "exclusively served the poor". (Le Grand and Winter 1987, cited in Wilson 1993 p 144)

Example 3:

This is poor academic practice which could be treated as plagiarism because:

- although both primary and the secondary authors are mentioned, there are no quotation marks to indicate that the content is largely identical to that of the source the student read.

An acceptable version would be:

'Le Grand and Winter (1987) argue thatwelfare programmes which served the middle class (such as education and health) suffered ... less in the 1980s than did programmes which ... served the poor (such as social security , public housing and the personal social services).'' (Wilson, 1993 p 144)

Example 4:

This is poor academic practice which could be treated as plagiarism because:

- the student has not changed the sentence construction, but simply replaced key words with others found in a thesaurus.

The student should have cited Wilson, 1993 (the author of the chapter) rather than Cochrane and Clarke (the editors of the book). The full reference to the book should only appear in the list of references.

The only way to make this acceptable would be to use the original words in quotation marks with the correct reference, as in Example One: ".in the British case, those welfare programmes which served the middle class (such as education and health) suffered far less during the new right welfare backlash of the 1980s than did programmes which (almost) exclusively served the poor." (Le Grand and Winter 1987, cited in Wilson 1993 p 144)

Example 5:

This is acceptable academic practice because:

- the early part is an effective paraphrase
- the directly quoted section is indicated by quotation marks
- both the cited author and the author the student has read are shown in the correct format

Example 6:

This is good academic practice because:

- it is an acceptable paraphrase which fully alters the original text whilst retaining the meaning conveyed
- the reference shows that the original idea was drawn from Wilson's reporting of Le Grand and Winters' original writing.