

PSYCH1140 - Plagiarism & summarizing

Thursday, 3 February 2022

Exploring plagiarism

I. *What do you think constitutes plagiarism?*

II. *Consider the following text:*

Data indicate that conceptual memory can support recognition memory for boundary objects, but not nonboundary objects, after an event has been segmented. Furthermore, conceptual memory for boundary objects from previous events was relatively good even for objects that were not fixated. Not only is this consistent with the proposal that event models are rebuilt from perceptual information and associated semantic knowledge at event boundaries, it also is also indicative of a process that holistically processes scenes at those times.

Now consider this text:

Following segmentation, it was found that recognition of boundary objects can be facilitated by conceptual memory. Even for more distant events, conceptual memory for objects that occurred at boundaries does not depend on whether participants spent a considerable amount of time looking at the object. This finding further confirms that event models are reconstructed at boundaries based on sensory input and suggest that event perception involves processing scenes in an integrative manner (Swallow, et al., 2009).

*Do you think the text in blue is a form of plagiarism? If yes why, if not why not?
You can add comments within the text or type your responses below.*

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism happens when you misrepresent someone else's work, writing, ideas as your own. This includes failure to properly cite others' work and merely paraphrasing others' work.

How can we avoid plagiarism?

1. Always cite other people's work. There are various citation formats that different fields use. Psychology usually uses APA (American Psychological Association) format. For the purpose of our course, I encourage you to use APA format. In-text citation should include the author's name and year of publication (e.g. Smith, 1997 or Smith & Thelen, 1998). If there are more than 2 authors you can use et al., (e.g. Smith et al., 1997). A reference list should be added at the end of the writeup with the following format:

Baldassano, C., Chen, J., Zadbood, A., Pillow, J. W., Hasson, U., & Norman, K. A. (2017). Discovering Event Structure in Continuous Narrative Perception and Memory. *Neuron*, 95(3), 709-721

2. Don't just paraphrase, but summarize.

What is summarizing?

To summarize a text is to distill the texts' main points and ideas and to express it in your own words in a concise way. A summary should be used to elevate, motivate, or be used as a point of argument for your own writing. In other words, you should not be writing for the mere purpose of regurgitating what others have said (e.g. by paraphrasing alone), but to use others' work to make your own point. Remember that reading and writing is like having a conversation.

Let's try summarizing together

PSYCH1140 - IC.Ex.4

Break into groups and work on the exercise:

[Group exercise sheet](#)