Writing with Integrity

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM IN PARAPHRASE
Paraphrase or Plagiarism?

- Take look at my paraphrase of William Hendriksen in the handout. Is it a good paraphrase?
Plagiarism!

- Writing consists of at least three things:
  1. Words
  2. Sentence structure
  3. Order of Ideas

- I perhaps changed Hendriksen’s words. Did I change his sentence structure or his order of ideas?

- Is my “paraphrase” really my own cooking, or is it Hendriksen’s leftovers warmed up and served again?
Paraphrase – How not to plagiarize

1. Identify the author by name within the first sentence of your paraphrase.

2. Position your footnote after the first sentence of your paraphrase.

3. Repeat the author’s name frequently throughout your entire paraphrase, in order to make it clear that you are still working with the author’s ideas.
4. Do not write your paraphrase with the author’s writing in front of you! Close the book, get a drink of water, walk around the house, and then write your paraphrase from memory. Give yourself time for the author’s phrases to dissipate.

5. When writing your paraphrase, avoid repeating the author’s sentence structure and order of ideas. (Allowing time for the author’s phrases to dissipate will help you with this).
6. Feel free to intersperse your paraphrase with quotations. Whenever your “paraphrase” gets too close to the author’s original writing, erase what you’ve written and include a short quotation instead.

- Of course, remember to insert another footnote whenever you quote from the source.