

Plagiarism Answers

1. This clearly is a verbatim account and is thus seriously guilty of plagiarism.
2. This version is marginally better than the first, but is still not acceptable. The original work has been acknowledged, but no indication has been made that the text itself has actually been used.
3. In this case, the addition of quote marks makes an important distinction from the previous versions. The author is clearly acknowledging that both the ideas and the word order have come from the textbook. It is therefore not guilty of plagiarism. This version has been included to highlight a different weakness, namely that stringing together a series of quoted 'chunks' of text is a poor way to construct an essay, and work written this way is therefore likely to score low marks
4. This version of the essay is fine. The quotation is indicated and is used in an appropriate way; it is being critiqued by the author and contrasted with a view supported by a second reference. This is not plagiarism
5. This version, and the next, are illustrations of practice that some students consider to be acceptable – but they are not acceptable practice. They are derivatives of the original work with only cosmetic alterations. The wording and sentence construction of this version bears a very close relationship with the source and is guilty of plagiarism
6. Similarly, this is a 'thesaurus-ed' or word-swapping version of the same text. A few words have been replaced with synonyms but this is not sufficient to be considered new work.
7. The author of the final essay has made a serious attempt to produce a novel account of the subject. It is still not perfect - lined up as it is here with one original source document, there are still echoes of the thought processes within the work, and ideally the student should draw on a number of sources in order that the essay has genuine originality. Nevertheless, significant effort has gone into bringing freshness to the text, and we would consider that this is not guilty of plagiarism.