

Name _____

Plagiarism Activity

Go to www.plagiarism.org and review the COA website and supplemental course content to answer the following questions:

1. Refer to plagiarism.org. Define plagiarism by referencing all four components of the definition.
2. Identify at least three examples of plagiarism and give a specific real or hypothetical example.
3. Identify three "Facts & Stats" that surprised you and why, OR three things you learned from reviewing this section of plagiarism.org
4. What about images or music?
5. What is the policy for plagiarism at COA?
6. But what if you didn't *mean* to plagiarize?
7. In your opinion, why do students plagiarize?
8. What are the three different kinds of plagiarism according to class notes (courtesy of Valenzano etl. al)? Give a real-world example of each.
9. When do you need to cite your sources? Please be specific.
10. What are some strategies for avoiding plagiarism?

Consider the following excerpt from a piece by Richard Hall, from Public Radio International’s program, *The World*, about two sisters who are Peshmerga fighters. Then, on an additional page (or in an email), paraphrase this portion for an imaginary informative speech about the female Peshmerga.

It was the ISIS attack on Yazidis that prompted the first US intervention against the group. In August 2014, as thousands of Yazidi people found themselves stranded and starving atop Mount Sinjar — a sacred place to adherents of the faith — then-President Barack Obama ordered airstrikes against the militants and airlifts for those trapped. After her lucky escape, Khatoon wanted to fight back. This was a crime against humanity, but it was also a crime against women. She thought women should play a role in fighting back. She refused to be a victim. Her solution was to form the first all-female Yazidi fighting battalion. They call themselves the Sun Ladies.

The battalion received weapons, training and support from the government of semi-autonomous Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. They are the first female battalion of the peshmerga — the Kurdish region’s army — which translates to “those who face death.” Khatoon says she has 1,700 Yazidi women in her battalion. They found willing volunteers among those displaced from Sinjar, many of whom had friends and relatives captured and enslaved by ISIS. “I asked the Yazidi girls, ‘Who would like to join me to defend our honor?’ And every day in displaced camps for Yazidi people, girls were signing up,” she says. “We spread through media that we are going to defend our honor and my call is not only for Yazidi girls, not for Sinjar alone, but to all women.”

Here is a sample of excellent paraphrasing for the same imaginary speech

Original content from a book, The Road Unforeseen, Women Fight the Islamic State, By Meredith Tax (2016)	An excellent paraphrase:
<p>That such a liberated area [in northern Iraq and Syria] even existed was big news to me. On that summer’s [2014] maps, Rojava--the Kurdish word for “west”--looked like three unconnected yellow blobs making up an area slightly smaller than Connecticut, surrounded by a vast and menacing gray field representing territory controlled by Daesh. In the summer of 2014, the ski-masked jihadis of Daesh seemed invincible as they swept down on the terrified towns and cities of Iraq, while the Iraqi army and the vaunted Iraqi Kurdish militia, the <i>peshmerga</i>, fled before them. Not until Daesh reached Kobane did they meet guerillas who had built something they were willing to fight for. Since then, the Rojava forces have captured Tal Abyad, linking two of the three yellow blobs to make a larger contiguous unit; Daesh has also lost other territory.</p> <p>The Obama administration had named Daesh an “imminent threat to every interest we have,” so the media were ecstatic to discover the photogenic young female guerillas. The press tended, however, to avoid discussing what they stood for, and no wonder, for these girls did not fit into any acceptable Western narrative: They were feminists, socialists, if not indeed anarchists or communists, and led by a group linked to Turkey’s Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), which is listed as a terrorist organization by NATO, the UK, and the US.</p>	<p>In her 2016 book, <i>The Road Unforeseen, Women Fight the Islamic State</i>, Meredith Tax describes her surprise--like my own--that this group of women even existed. In the summer of 2014, the Iraqi army and Kurdish militants had been unable to push back against ISIS fighters. But the Peshmerga have effectively reclaimed and held territory from ISIS in the past few years. According to Tax, the female Peshmerga are a complex branch of the Kurdish militia, described as “feminists, socialists, if not indeed anarchists or communists, and led by a group linked to Turkey’s Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), which is listed as a terrorist organization by NATO, the UK, and the US” (pp. 17-18).</p>

