

Writing and expressing your thoughts are an important part of college classes. However, plagiarism is not well understood and students are advancing to upper division courses without clearly understanding how to write summaries without plagiarizing.

To earn credit:

1. Read the definition of plagiarism in the course catalog. If you have any questions, please ask me.
2. Find a short article that is of interest to you in a scientific journal like Scientific American or Nature. Make sure your topic is in biology because this is a biology course (ie not Astronomy for example).
3. Read the article.
4. Summarize the article in your own words without plagiarizing. Your summary should only be two pages in length so it is important that you can summarize the article in that length. If the article is too long to summarize in two pages (just a small paragraph more is ok), you should find an article that you can summarize briefly.
5. Because this is an exercise in understanding plagiarism, DO NOT use quotes from the article to summarize it. You need to be able to do this without quoting the author(s).
6. Make sure to reference your article properly. Any accepted method of citation is fine, but make sure you include the reference or you will be docked points.

You will be given credit based on:

1. You can summarize the article without plagiarism.
2. Reference of your source.
3. You accurately summarize the information in the article—it is also not good if you cannot understand the article enough to describe it to others.

Additional Requirements: Please make sure to have normal margins (1") and a font size of 12 pt to ensure everyone has the same requirements. You can use either 1.5 or double spacing for your summary. You will need to type the assignment as it will need to be uploaded to the canvas site.