Answer Key

II. Self-test on academic honesty

Section 1: True or false

_____ 1. If you use an internet source, you don’t have to cite it.

FALSE. You must cite all sources, including internet sources.

_____ 2. It is not necessary to cite facts which are common knowledge—e.g. that the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, or the Lincoln was president during the U.S. Civil War.

TRUE. However, if you are not certain that a fact is common knowledge, it’s a good idea to cite it.

_____ 3. It is wrong to use another person’s ideas when writing a research paper.

FALSE. In writing a research paper, everyone draws on, analyzes, synthesizes or criticizes the ideas of others. Your ideas do not have to be completely original; you simply should acknowledge the sources of your ideas.

_____ 4. It is only necessary to cite a source when you use more than a paragraph from it.

FALSE. Any direct quotations must be placed in quotes and cited; any indirect borrowing should be cited.

_____ 5. Plagiarism can result in a failing grade in a course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

TRUE. We take plagiarism very seriously.

_____ 6. Working with another student on a take-home exam is permissible.

FALSE. Unless you have specific permission otherwise from your instructor, you should not get help from others on take-home exams.

_____ 7. There are occasionally circumstances under which it is ok to cite directly from the web without footnoting or otherwise indicating your source.

FALSE. It is never, under any circumstances, acceptable to quote from the web without citing your source. The internet is a source in need of attribution just like any other source.
Answer Key  **Section 2: Multiple Choice.**

“When the tribes were forced from their aboriginal homelands and confined to small reservations, many of the tribal religious rituals were prohibited by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the 1870s and 1880s because of an inordinately large number of Christian zealots as Indian agents. Traditional people had to adopt various subterfuges so that their religious life could be continued. Some tribes shifted their ceremonial year to coincide with the whites’ holidays and conducted their most important rituals on national holidays and Christian feast days, explaining to curious whites that they were simply honoring George Washington and celebrating Christmas and Easter.” (Vine DeLoria, “Sacred Places and Moral Responsibility,” in Richard C. Foltz, ed., *Worldviews, Religion, and the Environment: A Global Anthology* (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2003) 81).

Which of the following violates established standards of academic integrity in the citation of the above paragraph?

**The Correct Answer is 1) a and c**

Citation a violates establish standards because it, first, fails to cite the source; and, second, because it quotes directly from the text (though it deletes one sentence) without acknowledging the direct quotation with the use of quotation marks (“”).

Citation c violates establish standards because it fails to acknowledge the direct quotation from the text in the last sentence with quotation marks (“”).

Citation b meets established standards because it both cites its source and places in quotation marks materials directly cited from the original paragraph.

Citation d meets established standards because it cites its source and paraphrases accurately (and therefore has no need for quotation marks) the original paragraph.