

How Does Plagiarism Happen?

The parts of the original source that were changed are highlighted and given a number and color code so that you can match them to “my writing”.

Can you tell what is different about the two paragraphs?

Original Source: [Alternative Fuels Data Center - https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/ethanol_production.html](https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/ethanol_production.html)

"Ethanol is a **domestically produced (1)** alternative fuel most commonly made from corn. **(2)** It is also made from **cellulosic (3)** feedstocks, such as crop residues and wood—**though this is not as common. (4)** U.S. ethanol plants are concentrated in the Midwest because of the proximity to corn production. Plants outside the Midwest typically receive corn by rail or use other feedstocks and are located near large population centers." **(5)**

My Writing:

Ethanol is **produced domestically (1)** as an alternative fuel most commonly made from corn. **Sometimes (2)** it is also made from **(3)** feedstocks, such as crop residues and wood. **(4)** Ethanol plants are mostly located in the parts of the United States where corn is a major crop. If there is a need for an ethanol plant distant from where corn grows, railroads are used to ship the corn. **(5)**

What Happened?

I am assigned an essay or a speech. I chose The Advantages of Ethanol as my topic.

I found a website that I think has credible information.

I copy and paste the first paragraph because it seems like a good introduction. (I need to get started; it's due next week!)

I change a few words around (1) and add a word (2) and drop a word (3) and drop a phrase (4) but I use the same sentence structure and most of the same words. (5) Oh....and.....I rewrite the last two sentences with my own thoughts and words but use the same ideas.

Is this Plagiarism?