14. Referencing your research

There are three main reasons that we use references:

1. to show that we have studied about our topic
2. to show readers and other researchers where our information comes from
3. to avoid plagiarism

Plagiarism is copying someone else's writing and handing it in as your own work. Plagiarism is cheating. If you plagiarize your research paper, you will fail this writing course.

There are three main kinds of plagiarism:

1. copying another person's research paper
2. having someone else write your research paper
3. copying parts of your paper directly from someone else's writing

#1 and #2 are very serious kinds of plagiarism, and universities often expel students for these kinds of plagiarism.

#3 is a more common kind of plagiarism, and it sometimes happens by accident. Students must be very careful when they are writing their papers. You cannot copy any sentences or paragraphs directly from the book you are reading, unless you make a reference to the book.

1. When should you use a reference? Check (✓) four of the options below:

___ anytime you are writing something that someone might disagree with
___ anytime you use statistics or numbers
___ anytime you quote someone directly
___ anytime you write information that is general information
___ anytime you include a picture or graphic from another source

There are two ways of referencing other writers:

A. Quoting

B. Paraphrasing

Language Focus: presenting evidence

The available evidence seems to suggest that...
On the basis of the evidence currently available, it seems fair to conclude that...
There is overwhelming evidence suggesting that...

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2. Read about how to use quoting and paraphrasing, then decide if the rules below are for quoting (Q) or paraphrasing (P).

> **Quoting:** Usually quotes are no longer than four lines of typed text. When you quote, you must accurately copy all the words exactly and you must put them in quotation marks (" "). You must also include the page number that the quote can be found on (in parentheses). Generally, you should not quote something from Japanese to English. If you are using a Japanese source, you should paraphrase the information you are referencing
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> **Paraphrasing:** When an extract is not a famous quote or is not beautifully written, you should choose to paraphrase it. When you paraphrase, you re-write another's idea using your own words. You must use different words and you must use different grammar. A good way to paraphrase a source, is to read the original source a few times, write down any difficult words, then close the source and write your own paraphrase from memory.

___ Can only be used with English sources.
___ Must be written in your own words.
___ Should only be used for short extracts.
___ Should only be used when something is very well written.
___ Must be written exactly as the original.
___ Should include a page number.
___ Does not count towards your total word count.

3. Which sentences need a reference? Check (✓) the sentences that need a reference to support them.

___ Tokyo is the largest city in Japan.
___ Tokyo has the highest crime rate in Japan.

___ Japan uses the death penalty.
___ There have been five people sentenced to death in Japan this year.

___ Children can learn languages easier than adults.
___ In Japan, children usually start learning English in junior high school.

> **Language Focus: writing about earlier studies**
>
> _____ studied _____ and concluded...
> As early as (year), _____ believed that...
> In her study, _____ discovered that...
> From _____, we have learned that...

4. Add the references to the sentences below (APA style).

(Brown, 2008)	(2008)
(Brown, 2008: 263)	(2008: 263)

Racial discrimination continues to be a problem in Japan _____.

There were 1,023 cases of racial discrimination brought to Japanese courts last year

_____.

Brown believes that racial discrimination continues to be a problem in Japan

_____.

According to Brown, there were 1,023 cases of racial discrimination brought to Japanese courts last year _____.

5. Look at the verbs used for referring. Which are used when the writer agrees with the source? Which are neutral?

argues	contends	notes	states
asserts	declares	observes	suggests
believes	discusses	points out	thinks
claims	explains	reports	writes
concludes	insists	speculates	

neutral	not neutral