

## Answers for TC Exercise #4: Handling and Documenting Sources Using APA Documentation Style

This exercise reviews some common pitfalls I have experienced as students use information and borrowed language inside their writing. Please review the following materials **before** doing this exercise:

1. **Guidelines for using quotations properly in your writing**  
--<http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/quotes.htm>
2. **What plagiarism is and how to avoid it**  
--Williams College Integrity Matters  
[https://web.williams.edu/wp-etc/acad-resources/survival\\_guide/Integrity/plagiarism.php](https://web.williams.edu/wp-etc/acad-resources/survival_guide/Integrity/plagiarism.php)  
--Avoiding Plagiarism Guide  
<http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/MLAGuide/mlaplplagiarism.htm>
3. **APA Documentation Style**  
--review the Appendix in our textbook; look at the example APA paper  
--Purdue OWL <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

### Doing the Exercise:

On a separate document, answer the following questions. Then submit to the TC Exercise #4 assignment.

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### Question #1:

What is wrong with how these writers have used this quotation?

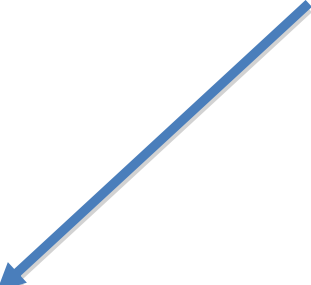
**A Technical Definition of 3D Depth-Sensing Camera**

**Technology**

**Sentence Definition**  
*3D depth sensing camera technology* uses an infrared camera, a low-res RGB camera, and an infrared projector to capture a three dimensional image.

**Expanded Definition**  
Version #1: Expansion Techniques Identified

**Technique 1: Principal of Operation**  
*3D Depth-Sensing Camera Technology* is a sensor that returns two streams of data in real-time. One data stream is a 3D depth map, which is stored in 16-bits unsigned short data type (see the following figure on the left-hand side), while the other data stream is a color image (see the following figure on the right-hand side), which is stored in a 24 bits per pixel, RGB888 format (that is, the memory is aligned in the R, G, and B order, and *8 bits \* 3 channels = 24 bits* are used per pixel)" (Krig, 2014).



**Answer Question #1:** The writer may have put quotes around the borrowed language and included in-text documentation, but the use of this quotation has three problems

1. The writer has dropped the quote into the text and not integrated it by setting it up.
2. The quote is a long quote and should be double-indented.
3. This is a large amount of text to quote anyway. The writer is not creating the definition; he is just copying big chunks of other people's definition of this term.

**Question #2:**

The highlighted text below is borrowed word for word from an outside source. What is wrong with how these writers handle this borrowed language? How would you fix it?

**Technique 2: Example**  
 Depth sensing is not a new concept, and although it is not very well known, its use is widespread. Depth sensing is defined as, "using an infrared camera, a low-res RGB camera, and an infrared projector to capture a three-dimensional image." Examples of a depth-sensing camera include, but are not limited to, the following: satellite imaging, remote sensing, photogrammetry, medical imaging, Xbox Kinect, 3D medical imaging such as CAT or MRI, and lastly, multi-view stereo (MVS) to compute digital elevation maps (DEMs) and digital terrain maps (DTMs) (Lo, 2015).

**Technique 3: Partition**  
 Not many people know exactly what a "3D depth-sensing camera" is or what it is capable of. A common frame of reference for what a depth-sensing camera is would be the XBOX Kinect. The original Kinect determines depth using several methods such as-

1. The size of the infrared spot—larger dots and low blurring mean the location is nearer while smaller dots and more blurring mean the location is farther away.
2. The shape of the spot—a circle indicates a parallel surface while an ellipse indicates an oblique surface.
3. By using small regions or a micro pattern of spots together so that the resolution is not very fine—however, noise sensitivity is good.

In utilizing these methods, depth is computed from a single image rather than several sequential patterns and images (Lo, 2015).

Note: How would you fix this list which is completely borrowed language?

**Answer Question #2: Plagiarism.** That's what is wrong with how this writer has mishandled this source material—it is plagiarism. Why?

Someone else wrote the highlighted words, yet they are presented in this text without quotation marks around them to indicate they came from another source than the writer of this paper. The reader will believe the writer of the paper wrote these words when he or she did not--that's the problem!

Just having the in-text citation next to this borrowed language is not enough. Even short chunks of text of four to eight words that are word for word and not put inside quotation marks are a problem.

**Two fixes are possible:**

1: Rather than use direct borrowings from the source, the writer could paraphrase. BEWARE paraphrases that are too close to the original because they still constitute and inappropriate borrowing:

[https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA\\_paraphrase.html](https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_paraphrase.html)

2. Handle the borrowed language correctly as a quote: set up the quote and put the borrowed language inside quotation marks.

**How would you fix the list that is completely borrowed language?**

This list is essentially a long quote, so it needs to be appropriately set up with a colon and not a dash. Then the list needs to be indented two tabs to the right from the left margin. (Probably the incorrect handling of the borrowed language in the last line needs to be fixed following one of the two methods above.)

**Question #3:**

**What is wrong with how this quote is handled? (Hint: There are multiple things wrong.)**

**Synchronization** is the ability to transfer one or multiple files using a server, from one device to another. Original sync uses a server to upload the files to and then download those files to the desired device. Streaming allows a video or some sort of computer file to be instantly transferred using an internet connection. Streaming does not require the files to be uploaded. Streaming Sync combines the two terms previously listed. It allows files to be transferred and downloaded to a desired location or device using the internet but it doesn't require the files to be uploaded to a server. Instead of waiting for an upload to finish, streaming sync starts downloading files to a second device while they're still uploading. "The next time you need to sync a large video file (or any file over 16MB) from your computer to your connected devices on a shared folder, Dropbox will make sure you get an extra sync speed boost." Stream sync allow large files such as audio and video files to stream so that users can view the contents of a file even as Dropbox continues to download the file.

The efficiency of streaming sync is compared to a rabbit and a turtle. We know from experience that a rabbit would get to the finish line a lot quicker than a turtle would. There is no doubt, that the turtle would finish. But how fast? Streaming Sync improves almost 2x as the file gets bigger

**Question #4:**

**The highlighted text is a word for word borrowing from another text. What is wrong with how this writer has used this borrowed language? What is needed to fix and document it correctly?**

**Answer to Question #3:**

There are two things wrong:

1. The writer has dropped this quote into the text without properly integrating it.
2. Also, this writer has not documented where this borrowed material came from with in-text citation.

**Answer to Question #4:**

This example is another instance of Academic Dishonesty or plagiarism. The highlighted text is not inside quotation marks, so the writer is presenting someone else's words as their own. The best fix would be to handle this borrowed language properly as a quotation inside his or her text. That means integrating it properly by creating a set up sentence or phrase for the quote, and then enclosing the borrowed language inside quotation marks.

**See the following guides on the art of integrating quotes** (print and study them if you find them useful):

The Art of Using Quotes: <http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/setupquotesart.pdf>

More on the Art of Using Quotes: <http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/integratingquotes2.pdf>

Yet More on the Art of Using Quotes: <http://www.lirvin.net/WGuides/setupquotesart2.pdf>

Plagiarism, even unintentionally, is a serious academic issue. As a more experienced college student, you are expected to know how to properly handle source material and avoid this issue of academic dishonesty. This expectation for the proper handling of source material inside your writing holds true not just in your Freshman Composition class or your Tech Writing class—but in ALL your classes.

**Question #5:**

**The following list of references is not formatted correctly following APA Style. Please fix this reference page, correctly formatting the page and the references. Hint: You may have to check if the references that indicate they don't have an author really do have an author.**

(Suggestion: If you have not tried using Citation Machine or Easy Bib to create correctly formatted references, you might try it here: <http://www.citationmachine.net/apa/cite-a-book>.)

Work cited

Introducing streaming sync: Supercharged sync for large files. (n.d.). Retrieved April 17, 2016, from <https://blogs.dropbox.com/dropbox/2014/07/introducing-streaming-sync-supercharged-sync-for-large-files/>

Kim, E. (2014). Dropbox Stays Ahead Of Amazon With Big File-Syncing Upgrade. Retrieved April 17, 2016, from <http://www.businessinsider.com/dropbox-file-transfer-speed-boost-2014-7>

Dropbox Streaming Sync makes file transfers twice as fast. (2014). Retrieved April 17, 2016, from <http://www.techtimes.com/articles/10288/20140712/dropbox-streaming-sync-makes-file-transfers-twice-as-fast.htm>

Streaming File Synchronization. (n.d.). Retrieved April 17, 2016, from <https://blogs.dropbox.com/tech/2014/07/streaming-file-synchronization/>

**Answer to Question #5:**

The correctly formatted Reference page is presented on the next page.

**What's wrong with the above list of citations?**

1. Work Cited is for MLA—References should be at the top of an APA references page.
2. It is not in alphabetic order.
3. It is not double-spaced throughout.
4. It does not use APA format for the entries.
5. The information in the references is incomplete. In particular, it misses the authors and the place of publication.

## References

- Arce, N. (2014, July 12). Dropbox Streaming Sync makes file transfers twice as fast. *Tech Times*. Retrieved April 14, 2017, from <http://www.techtimes.com/articles/10288/20140712/dropbox-streaming-sync-makes-file-transfers-twice-as-fast.htm>
- Kim, E. (2014, July 11). Dropbox Stays Ahead Of Amazon With Big File-Syncing Upgrade. *Business Insider*. Retrieved April 14, 2017, from <http://www.businessinsider.com/dropbox-file-transfer-speed-boost-2014-7>
- Koorapati, N. (2014a, July 11). Introducing streaming sync: Supercharged sync for large files. *Dropbox Blog*. Retrieved April 14, 2017, from <https://blogs.dropbox.com/dropbox/2014/07/introducing-streaming-sync-supercharged-sync-for-large-files/>
- Koorapati, N. (2014b, July 11). Streaming File Synchronization. *Dropbox Blog*. Retrieved April 14, 2017, from <https://blogs.dropbox.com/tech/2014/07/streaming-file-synchronization/>

### **Some notes on creating this correct APA References page:**

I was able to create this References Page with Citation Machine in about 10 minutes. BUT I had to critically evaluate the form that the application set up for each reference. Citation Machine left off the author in three of them, and did not include the place of publication in any of them. I had to add the author information into the form, but there was no place put the place of publication in the form, so I had to type in that information after I had copied the reference onto the page.

Also, I had to look up how to handle two different sources published by the same author. Here is what I found that helped me: "Reference Twins: Or, How to Cite Articles With the Same Authors and Same Year"  
<http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2011/10/reference-twins.html>