Gathering, Evaluating, and Citing Sources

Name: _____	Date: _____	Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

Grade 7 researchers (1) gather from MULTIPLE credible sources, (2) judge ACCURACY and CREDIBILITY (author expertise, date, publisher, possible bias, peer review), (3) distinguish QUOTATIONS from PARAPHRASES in their notes, (4) FOLLOW a STANDARD CITATION FORMAT, and (5) AVOID PLAGIARISM. Paraphrasing changes the words; it does NOT change who gets credit for the idea.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Source excerpts and a student's notes (treat each excerpt as the original text)

SOURCE 1 (peer-reviewed adolescent-health journal, 2024): A 2024 study of 3,800 U.S. middle-schoolers found that students who slept seven hours or fewer per night were 2.3 times more likely to report difficulty concentrating during first-period classes than peers who slept eight or more hours.

SOURCE 2 (sleep-tracker company's promotional blog, 2024): Students who wear our wristbands sleep BETTER and do BETTER in school. Buy now and unlock your child's full potential before the school year ends!

SOURCE 3 (1997 newspaper opinion column): In my view, kids these days are just lazy. Back when I was in school, we got up at 5 a.m. and never complained about being tired. That's that.

SOURCE 4 (article published last week on a Wikipedia-style open-edit site): Some studies suggest sleep affects school performance. Anyone can edit this entry, and the most recent edit was made by user CoolBee2010.

STUDENT NOTE (taken by Tara while reading Source 1): Middle schoolers who slept 7 hours or fewer were 2.3x more likely to report concentration trouble in first period than peers who slept 8+ hours - 2024 study of 3,800 students. - Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Read the source excerpts and the student note. Answer the questions about credibility, accuracy, paraphrasing, citation, and plagiarism.

1. Which source is MOST CREDIBLE for a Grade 7 research report on adolescent sleep and school performance?

A. SOURCE 1, the peer-reviewed adolescent-health journal from 2024.

B. SOURCE 2, the sleep-tracker company's promotional blog.

C. SOURCE 3, the 1997 newspaper opinion column.

D. SOURCE 4, the open-edit Wikipedia-style article.

2. What is the MAIN credibility problem with SOURCE 2 (the sleep-tracker company's blog)?

A. The blog uses too many short sentences.

B. The blog has commercial BIAS: the company SELLS sleep wristbands, so it has a financial reason to make any claim that supports its product look strong.

C. The blog is too recent to be trusted.

D. The blog is missing the word *middle*.

3. What is the MAIN credibility problem with SOURCE 4 (the open-edit article)?

A. Open-edit articles are illegal to use.

B. The article is too short to ever be useful.

C. Anyone can edit the article, the most recent edit is from an unverified user (CoolBee2010), and there is no editorial review - so the ACCURACY of any specific claim cannot be confirmed.

D. The article doesn't mention the word *students*.

4. Tara's STUDENT NOTE is a strong note. Which feature makes it strong?

A. It copies Source 1 word for word with no changes.

B. It paraphrases the source's finding, KEEPS the specific numbers (3,800 / 2.3x / 7 hours), and NAMES the source and year so it can be cited later.

C. It writes Tara's personal opinion about sleep instead of the finding.

D. It is shorter than the original sentence by exactly two words.

5. Tara wrote a SECOND note from Source 1 that read: *Sleeping less than 7 hours makes middle schoolers 2.3 times more likely to have trouble concentrating in first period.* But she did NOT write the source. What is the PROBLEM?

A. The note is too short.

B. The note doesn't track the SOURCE, so if Tara uses these facts later she will have no way to cite them - and using them without credit would be plagiarism.

C. The note uses too many numbers.

D. The note is missing the word *school*.

6. Which sentence is a QUOTATION from Source 1 (must use the source's EXACT words)?

A. Source 1 reports that short sleep affects concentration.

B. According to Source 1, sleep matters for schoolwork.

C. As Source 1 states, *students who slept seven hours or fewer per night were 2.3 times more likely to report difficulty concentrating during first-period classes.*

D. Source 1 mostly talks about middle school.

7. Tara wants to use the IDEA from Source 1 but writes it ENTIRELY in her own words. Does she still need to CITE Source 1?

A. No - paraphrasing changed the words, so credit is not needed.

B. No - Grade 7 students are not expected to cite sources.

C. Yes - the IDEA still came from someone else's research, so the source must be cited even when paraphrased.

D. Yes, but only if Source 1 happens to be a book.

8. Which CITATION format is the BEST for using Source 1 in a Grade 7 report?

A. (some article online)

B. (I read it somewhere reliable)

C. (Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024)

D. Citation is not needed for facts.

9. Read these two student sentences. Which one is PLAGIARISM, even though only a few words were changed?

A. A 2024 study of 3,800 middle schoolers found that students sleeping seven hours or fewer were more than twice as likely to struggle with concentration in first-period classes (Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024).

B. A 2024 study of 3,800 U.S. middle-schoolers found that students who slept seven hours or fewer per night were 2.3 times more likely to report difficulty concentrating during first-period classes than peers who slept eight or more hours. (No citation.)

C. Researchers studying U.S. middle schoolers have linked short sleep with weaker concentration in early-morning classes (Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024).

D. According to a 2024 adolescent-health study, middle schoolers who sleep seven hours or fewer have a measurably harder time concentrating in first-period classes than those who sleep eight or more hours (Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024).

10. Which paraphrase MOST FAITHFULLY captures Source 1's finding without distorting it?

A. A 2024 study proved that not sleeping causes terrible grades in every middle schooler in America.

B. A 2024 study showed sleep doesn't really matter for school performance, which most kids already knew.

C. A 2024 study of 3,800 U.S. middle schoolers found that students who slept seven or fewer hours per night were about 2.3 times more likely than longer-sleeping peers to report trouble concentrating in first-period classes (Adolescent-Health Journal, 2024).

D. A 2024 study said most middle schoolers really like sleeping a lot more than going to school in the morning.

Answer Keys

1	**A**	B	C	D	6	A	B	**C**	D
2	A	**B**	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	**C**	D
4	A	**B**	C	D	9	A	**B**	C	D
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	A	B	**C**	D

Explanations

1. A	A names every strong credibility marker: peer-reviewed, recent (2024), in a topic-specific journal, named methodology. B is a commercial ad. C is a personal opinion column from 1997 (dated and not research). D is open-edit and was last revised by an unverified anonymous user.
2. B	Commercial sources have a built-in reason to support claims that drive sales - that is BIAS, the key credibility concern. A is irrelevant. C is the opposite of a problem (recency helps credibility). D is irrelevant.
3. C	C names the real accuracy problem: open-edit pages can change by the hour and don't go through editorial review, so a researcher cannot verify any specific fact at the moment of use. A is overgeneralization. B is irrelevant. D is irrelevant.
4. B	B names the three things strong Grade 7 notes do: faithful paraphrase + key data preserved + source identified. A would be plagiarism. C captures nothing from the source. D oversimplifies (shortness alone doesn't make a note strong).
5. B	Notes must include the source so the writer can cite it later AND avoid plagiarism. B names that exact failure. A is irrelevant. C is wrong - numbers are what makes the note useful. D is irrelevant.
6. C	A quotation uses the source's EXACT words inside quotation marks. C does. A, B, and D each paraphrase the source rather than quoting it, so they are not quotations.
7. C	Even a complete rewording must cite the source - the IDEA is the source's, and using it without credit is plagiarism. A names the most common student misconception. B is false (Grade 7 explicitly expects citation). D is false.
8. C	C names the publication and the year - the basic Grade 7 citation that lets a reader find the source. A and B are too vague to follow. D is false: facts from sources still need citation.
9. B	B is nearly word-for-word from the source AND has NO citation - that is plagiarism even if a few words were swapped. A, C, and D all rephrase substantially AND credit the source.
10. C	C keeps the key numbers (3,800, 7 hours, 2.3x), the comparison (longer-sleeping peers), and the specific outcome (first-period concentration), AND cites the source. A overstates (*proved... every student*). B contradicts the source. D distorts the finding entirely.

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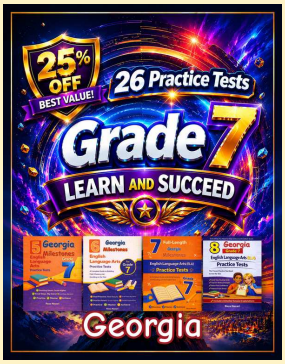

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