Here’s our scenario...

You’ve read this excerpt, taken verbatim from its original source:

The Washington Post published an editor’s note on its Web site Wednesday apologizing for two articles by a longtime Post reporter who used material from The Arizona Republic without crediting that newspaper or citing it as a source.


You want to put some of the information from that source into your paper.

Here’s your draft—this is what you write in your paper:

It is easy to yield to the temptation of plagiarism, especially in journalism. An article in the New York Times notes that a Washington Post reporter wrote two articles that were written without giving credit to the source used. Intentional or not, it is theft.

Compare your draft with the excerpt from the original source & the information about that source provided above.
What’s wrong with your draft?

1. Not enough acknowledgement of the author—who is the author of this information exactly? You or …?
2. No complete citation of the source

So how can you correct this?

**Here’s one way to correct your draft & avoid plagiarizing:**

It is easy to yield to the temptation of plagiarism, especially in journalism. In her article in the *New York Times*, Vega notes that a *Washington Post* reporter wrote two articles that were written without giving credit to the source used (2011). Intentional or not, it is theft.

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References:


You’ll notice we now have the following:

1. Brief citation information worked into the second sentence:
   In her article in the *New York Times*, Vega notes... (2011)

   The way it is worded and the positioning of the author and publication year make it clear that this 2nd sentence is information coming from this source. It also clearly shows that the 1st and 3rd sentences are your own ideas.

2. Full citation separately listed:


Remember, you need 3 things when you quote someone to avoid plagiarizing:

1. Brief citation - Acknowledgement of source directly in that same sentence and/or in a parenthetical citation (like this) in or at the end of that sentence
   • Typically at least 2 pieces of info about source, often: Name of person(s) + page no. or publication year

2. Complete, accurate citation of source (who, what, where, when, etc.), typically at the end of your paper in a list of sources
   • Typically in a list called Bibliography, Works Cited, or References
And that’s it!

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Any questions about academic writing, citing, or avoiding plagiarism?
Visit [http://www.ohiodominican.edu/library/help/writing-resources](http://www.ohiodominican.edu/library/help/writing-resources) for online help & Library resources

Or go to [http://www.ohiodominican.edu/arc/writeplace](http://www.ohiodominican.edu/arc/writeplace) to connect with a Write Place tutor in Spangler