

Without Having Good Habits, How Would You Work & How Would a Prof or Boss Act?

The 5 Good Habits for Evidence are essential to figuring things out, problem solving, and critical thinking. They are **simple** and they **prevent** problems. They are listed in the **left** column below.

The **middle** column (the one you saw in the 1st link in this Evidence section) covers misunderstandings. Frequently, students who have been rewarded for their actions in the past have incorrect assumptions about what bosses and professors expect. **They seem to reevaluate their assumptions only when I ask “If you got really good at doing this, would any business or group want to pay you to do this?” If neither bosses or profs would want this, then change your habits now.**

The **right** column covers what happens to your work if you do **not** have these 5 Good Habits and the probable letter grade by a prof with a boss having a more intense response than a grade because your action costs the company money.

5 Good Habits for Evidence	Would a Business or Group Want to Pay You for These Skills?	Without These Good Habits, How Do You Work (& the Grade Is It Worth)
1 Reliable Sources Only	No one would ask you to "Google this for me and copy anything you like from the Internet" and no one would pay you for doing it. What's a reliable source? What your boss or your professor thinks is a reliable source.	When reading, use an unreliable source or a fact not on the cited page. (F) Tip: With all below , you will not get away with this with a boss , a team , or an upper level prof you need to write a reference .
2 Factual Accuracy That You Verify with the Reliable Source Before You Write	No one would pay you if you cannot figure out: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the question asked• the right facts carefully read and selected for that question• the meaning of the facts carefully read as a whole Example: if your boss asked you to explain why the Dallas plant is failing and instead you investigated the plant in San Antonio, you better have a very good story.	When reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Misread or read passively or do not cite or cited incorrectly. (D)• Assume or use incorrect or incomplete sources. (F) When writing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write passively. (D)• Write assumptions or do not answer all parts. (F)
3 Factual Accuracy That Is Verifiable for Every Statement You Make	No one would pay you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you don't know exactly where (including the source and the specific page) you found your evidence• If someone has to check your work all of the time	When reading, make errors such as embellishing or cherry-picking facts. (D) Tip: Those words are defined in the folder with the Evidence Quiz.
4 No “Half-Copy” Plagiarism or “Patchwriting” ¹	No one would pay you—at least not well—to copy another’s words and move them around. No one will want you around if you present yourself as the author of work that another person did. ² If you think STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) are just about memorizing, remember these disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May require you to be able to repeat terminology accurately	When writing, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plagiarize• Do “half-copy” plagiarism. (D)

¹ The quoted terms are explained on page 746 in the ninth edition of *The Bedford Handbook* by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers provided at the bottom of the Evidence Folder

² Page 746 and 747 also provide examples showing that listing a page number in citation is not enough. You are claiming that **you** created the words:

- If you copy another’s words without using quotation marks (“”) to distinguish **your** words from the author’s words
- If you take another person’s sentence structure and just swap out what you *think* are synonyms

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> But will always require you to be able to apply knowledge accurately. <p>Also see Why I Make a Big Deal About "Half-Copy Plagiarism and "Patchwriting." The reasons may surprise you.</p>	
5 Quotation Changes Revealed Clearly	<p>No one would pay you (or want you around) if you are so careless that you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make others look like they can't write a correct sentence. Change the meaning of what others say and write 	<p>When writing, use “ inaccurately and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make the author's writing grammatically incorrect. (D) Change the author's meaning. (F)

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WCJC Department:

History – Dr. Bibus

Contact Information:

281.239.1577 or bibusc@wcjc.edu

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