

EXERCISE 53-4 Avoiding plagiarism in MLA papers To read about avoiding plagiarism, see 53 in *Rules for Writers*, Sixth Edition.

Read the following passage and the information about its source. Then decide whether each student sample is plagiarized or uses the source correctly. If the student sample is plagiarized, write “plagiarized”; if the sample is acceptable, write “OK.”

ORIGINAL SOURCE

Our four friends [in *The Wizard of Oz*] finally gain entry to the Wizard’s palace because Dorothy’s tears of frustration undam a quite alarming reservoir of liquid in the guard. His face is quickly sodden with tears, and, watching this extreme performance, you are struck by the sheer number of occasions on which people cry in this film. Besides Dorothy and the guard, there is the Cowardly Lion, who bawls when Dorothy bops him on the nose; the Tin Man, who almost rusts up again from weeping; and Dorothy again, while she is in the clutches of the Witch. It occurs to you that if the hydrophobic Witch could only have been closer at hand on one of these occasions the movie might have been much shorter.

From Rushdie, Salman. “Out of Kansas: *The Wizard of Oz*.” *Writers at the Movies: Twenty-Six Contemporary Authors Celebrate Twenty-Six Memorable Movies*. Ed. Jim Shepard. New York: Harper, 2000. 201-26. Print. The source passage is from pages 223-24. Page 224 begins with the words *been closer at hand*.

1. The sheer number of occasions on which people cry in *The Wizard of Oz* is astounding.
2. Rushdie notes that so many characters cry in *The Wizard of Oz* that it’s surprising the Wicked Witch did not get wet and melt away earlier in the film (223-24).
3. Rushdie points out the number of characters who weep in *The Wizard of Oz*: Dorothy cries tears of frustration before being allowed to enter the Wizard’s palace, the guard at the palace becomes sodden with tears, the Cowardly Lion cries when Dorothy hits him on the nose, the Tin Man nearly rusts up again from crying, and Dorothy cries again when captured by the Witch (223).
4. Pointing out how many times characters cry in *The Wizard of Oz*, Rushdie observes that “if the hydrophobic Witch could only have been closer at hand on one of these occasions the movie might have been much shorter” (223-24).
5. Rushdie notes that Dorothy’s weeping makes other characters cry, as when her tears “undam a quite alarming reservoir of liquid” from the guard in an extreme performance outside the Wizard’s palace (223).