Is it Plagiarized or Paraphrased?

Compare the following original text excerpts to the student samples. Which samples are paragraphased? Which are plagiarized?

Original Text A

Although he was born in a poor family, Ben Franklin made a fortune as a printer in Philadelphia. By the age of 42, Franklin was one of the richest men in the colonies. He chose to retire from active business and become a "gentleman." He began to pursue "philosophical studies and amusements." He was especially curious about electricity, and his experiments made him famous.

Source: Appleby, Joyce, Ph.D., et. al. The American Journey. Columbus: McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Student Sample 1

He was born in a poor family but Ben Franklin made a lot of money as a printer in Philadelphia. By the age of 42, Franklin was one of the wealthiest men in the colonies. He chose to retire from business and become a "gentleman." He began to pursue "philosophical studies and amusements." He was especially interested in electricity, and his experiments made him well-known.

Original Text A

Although he was born in a poor family, Ben Franklin made a fortune as a printer in Philadelphia. By the age of 42, Franklin was one of the richest men in the colonies. He chose to retire from active business and become a "gentleman." He began to pursue "philosophical studies and amusements." He was especially curious about electricity, and his experiments made him famous.

Source: Appleby, Joyce, Ph.D., et. al. The American Journey. Columbus: McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Student Sample 2

Ben Franklin is well-known as both a businessman and a scientist. Franklin's successful printing business in Philadelphia led him to become one of the most wealthy men in the area. When he was only 42, he decided to retire from business and spend more time doing things he loved, such as electrical experiments and philosophical studies.

ORIGINAL TEXT B

The Vikings established a settlement that is now called L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland. When Leif Eriksson and his crew arrived in North America, they were persuaded to stay by lush meadows, thick forests, and streams filled with fish. A wandering crew member also discovered groves of wild grapes. When they departed for home, the Viking ships were full of timber, a rare item in Greenland, and grapes stored as wine or raisins.

Source: Appleby, Joyce, et. Al. *The American Journey.* Columbus: McGraw Hill, 2009.

STUDENT SAMPLE 1

Viking Leif Eriksson was impressed by the plentiful vegetation he found when his crew first landed in North America. This land was able to provide lumber, fish, and wild grapes. He and his crew liked it so much that they decided to set up a settlement there, which is now known as L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland. On the trip back to Greenland, the Viking ship was loaded down with goods gathered from this new land.

ORIGINAL TEXT B

The Vikings established a settlement that is now called L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland. When Leif Eriksson and his crew arrived in North America, they were persuaded to stay by lush meadows, thick forests, and streams filled with fish. A wandering crew member also discovered groves of wild grapes. When they departed for home, the Viking ships were full of timber, a rare item in Greenland, and grapes stored as wine or raisins.

(Source: Appleby, Joyce, et. Al. *The American Journey.* Columbus: McGraw Hill, 2009.)

STUDENT SAMPLE 2

The Vikings and Leif Eriksson established a settlement called L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland. They were persuaded to stay there by meadows, forests, and streams full of fish. A crew member found groves of wild grapes. When they left, their ship was full of timber, a rare item in Greenland, and grapes.