

Copyright & Plagiarism

Workshop for Faculty of Graduate Studies

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Test your understanding of Plagiarism

- Source: Academic Integrity at the University of Guelph

http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_quiz.cfm

Test Your Understanding of Citation and Referencing

This quiz tests your knowledge of the rules of referencing. Knowing these rules helps you avoid plagiarism. Good luck.

After you have read the question and chosen the answer you think is correct, click on the word "select" beside your answer. A response will pop up, telling you whether you were right or wrong and explaining why.

1. **You're doing a paper on death and dying and in the course of your research you have talked to a family friend whose child recently died. You want to include something she said to you, although it is not a quotation. Do you have to reference this, and if so, how would you do it?**

- A. Put a parenthetical note (if in APA style, which is suitable for the social sciences) as follows: (J. Doe, personal communication, April 1, 2004), but do not put it into the reference list. [\[select\]](#)
- B. Since no one could check on this, and you are really putting it into your own words, it is not necessary to cite it at all. [\[select\]](#)
- C. It is sufficient to mention in your text that a friend had experienced this situation. [\[select\]](#)

2. **You like the examples or illustrations several authors have used to prove a point and you want to pull them all together and use them in your own paper in a list. What ought you to do?**

- A. Examples used to prove a point are managed a little differently than opinions, ideas, or facts. These are treated the same way we would treat common knowledge, and not referenced. [\[select\]](#)
- B. Include a citation after each separate example to indicate where you found them. [\[select\]](#)
- C. Include them in one parenthetical citation or endnote after you have finished listing them. [\[select\]](#)

3. **You've found an article on the Web in a foreign language, and you've either translated some passages from it yourself or used an on-line language translator such as Babelfish to translate it into English. By the time you whip it into good academic English no one would be able to trace it. What do you do?**

- A. It's the same as any other article and you have to cite it. [\[select\]](#)
- B. No one would ever be able to find out where you found your ideas. Forget about citing it. [\[select\]](#)

4. **Last week your professor talked about her theory of the best method for electoral reform in a lecture. Since she knows all about it, do you need to reference this?**

- A. Since you are writing the paper for your professor, it is understood that all that has been said in the lectures are part of the common knowledge of the course. [\[select\]](#)
- B. You need to cite it in the body of your paper but not in the reference list. [\[select\]](#)
- C. You need to cite it in the body of your paper and in the reference list. [\[select\]](#)

5. **You had a brilliant brainwave about the short story you are writing an essay about. But when reading an article about the short story, you see that the same idea is mentioned. It was your own idea too, so do you need to reference it?**

- A. Yes. Great minds think alike, but even if you did think of the idea on your own you still need to reference the published source. Otherwise, readers will accuse you of plagiarism. You can use this source to support your argument, and you can try to show how your idea differs from the other author's, but you still have to cite the other source. [\[select\]](#)
- B. No. If you come up with an idea on your own, you don't have to cite the other source. [\[select\]](#)

6. **What do you think is wrong, if anything, in the following passage from a student paper?**

In 1904 Matisse came under the influence of Signac's use of separated colours in his paintings. This was called "divisionism." As Spurling says: "Divisionism provided logical grounds for separating the ultimate goal of painting - order, harmony, emotional stability achieved through rhythmic compositions of form and colour from its traditional dependence on the subject. This was an important idea for Matisse.

- A. I don't see anything wrong. The student used appropriate citation. [\[select\]](#)

What is Plagiarism?

A Case Study

Our Sample Texts

Types of Plagiarism

Quiz: Plagiarism

Avoiding Plagiarism

Quiz: Citation and Referencing

Paraphrasing and Summarizing

Practice Exercise

Quiz: Summarizing



C. Because by so doing you fail to indicate the exact source(s) of each specific passage. [\[select\]](#)

6. Information provided in your essay must be referenced in all of the following cases except:

- A. When the information involves an interpretation peculiar to the author from whose work you are drawing. [\[select\]](#)
- B. When the information describes common knowledge. [\[select\]](#)
- C. When the information comes from an e-mail or phone call. [\[select\]](#)
- D. When the information or idea that you are recording is disputed within the discipline. [\[select\]](#)
- E. b and c. [\[select\]](#)

7. You are unable to work out the calculations for your lab report but you know what the correct answer should be. Since your report is due, you take one of your numbers from an old lab report so that you can arrive at the correct answer. Is this considered to be plagiarism?

- A. Your professor doesn't expect everything to work out and if s/he knows that you falsified a few of your numbers to fit in with your results s/he won't be worried about it because the important thing is that you tried and that you understand what should have happened. [\[select\]](#)
- B. Since you are copying someone else's work without crediting the source, this is clearly plagiarism. [\[select\]](#)
- C. This was such a tiny part of the lab report, that it really doesn't matter. [\[select\]](#)

8. You're worried that your paper will look as if all the ideas come from someone else and appears to list one reference citation after another. You can avoid this by:

- A. Having your own over-riding argument and thesis, being analytical, and presenting your own interpretations of the evidence. [\[select\]](#)
- B. Omitting references when you are in doubt whether you need to reference ideas or information. [\[select\]](#)
- C. Integrating quotes and ideas into the text so that they fit in with your own words in a seamless web, and varying the way you introduce your references to the original sources. That way the citations will not be so intrusive. [\[select\]](#)
- D. a and c. [\[select\]](#)

9. You have a friend who usually looks over your papers and together you discuss how to improve them. Is this plagiarism?

- A. Yes, you should never accept help with the writing of your papers. [\[select\]](#)
- B. It's fine to get help from a friend as long as your discussion is a general one, and does not involve detailed conceptual or editorial changes. [\[select\]](#)

10. You are in a computer science course. The documentation for a new programming language is on the Web and the author has given permission to use the code. Do you cite the source or not?

- A. No, since the author has given permission to use the code, all you have to do is copy it. [\[select\]](#)
- B. Yes, you still need to cite the original source of the code. [\[select\]](#)

AU Definition of Plagiarism:10.1.2.2

- Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if that work were the student's own, when, in fact, it was not. Often plagiarism exists when:
 1. the work submitted was done in whole or in part, by an individual other than the person submitting the work
 2. the whole or parts of a work are taken from another source without reference to the original author, publication, journal or Internet source
 3. the whole or parts of the coursework submitted lacks citations even though a list of sources is provided
 4. the coursework has been copied in whole or in part from an individual, a textbook, a solution manual, the Internet or any other source
 5. when paid or professional editors are used inappropriately. Students are encouraged to contact the individual to whom their coursework is being submitted to discuss their plan on the use of an editor prior to submission of their coursework.

Source: http://calendar.athabascau.ca/undergrad/current/page11_02_new.php



Case Study

- “Mary Jones, an instructor in the English department, was marking her term papers when she came across an essay that set all her alarm bells ringing. First of all, one paragraph seemed to be suspiciously familiar. In fact, it was from an article she herself had written and she remembered how fond she had been of a certain turn of phrase, a phrase which had also apparently attracted her student. Then again, there seemed to be differences in writing style within the essay itself. Whereas at times the writer’s style was characteristic of much student work, with occasional grammar and punctuation errors, as well as a certain awkwardness of phrasing, at other times it was extremely sophisticated, and that of an expert writer in the discipline.”

Source: http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_casestudy.cfm

Case Study

- “Mary Jones began to investigate further. By entering a few words from suspicious passages in Google, she instantly found that her student had plagiarized from several sources available on the Internet. By combining her own considerable knowledge of writing in the field, and by checking the articles listed in the bibliography, she found more examples of outright unacknowledged copying. What her student had done was to create a patchwork quilt of plagiarized paragraphs from a number of sources, a patchwork joined together within the student’s own organizational framework.”

Source: http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_casestudy.cfm

Case Study: Consequences

- “Professor Jones wrote asking the student to come in for an interview and reported the plagiarism to the Dean. In the end, the student received an official warning and received a zero in the course.”

Source: http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_casestudy.cfm

Plagiarism in the digital age

- Easier to do
- Easier to track



AU policies on plagiarism for students

- Definition(s)
- [Academic misconduct policy](#)
- Key concepts
 - Intellectual honesty
 - Academic integrity



AU policies on plagiarism for students

- AU Academic Misconduct policy
 - http://www.athabascau.ca/calendar/page11_02_new.html#2
- Penalties for academic misconduct
 - http://www.athabascau.ca/calendar/page11_03_new.html



AU policies on plagiarism for faculty and staff

- Student Academic Misconduct Policy
 - <http://www.athabascau.ca/policy/registry/academicmisconductpolicy.htm>
 - Definition
- Student Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures
 - <http://www.athabascau.ca/policy/registry/academicmisconductprocedures.htm>
 - Describes the process for dealing with plagiarism, and includes a flow chart

Update: Plagiarism Detection Technology Policy (PDT)

- Approved June 2013
- Definition: “A product or service authorized at AU for the purpose of reviewing student work for originality”
- Source: <http://ous.athabascau.ca/policy/academic/plagiarism-detection-technology-policy.htm>
- Not yet implemented; will be soon

Strategies to avoid plagiarism

- Use data management strategies
 - “Intelligent Note taking” (e.g. systematic use of quotation marks for citations)
 - Annotated bibliography
 - Tip: Introduce/comment on citations
- Use of detecting software as educational tool (e.g. EndNote, RefWorks, Mendeley etc.)
- Consult your instructor when in doubt
- Source: http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_avoiding

Resources

- AU Library Help Centre:
<http://library.athabascau.ca/help.php>
 - Tutorials (Citing & referencing; research, etc.)
- Link to documentation resources on Write Site:
<http://www2.athabascau.ca/services/write-site/documentation.php>
- Academic Integrity at the University of Guelph:
 - Tips on paraphrasing & summarizing; practical exerciseshttp://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/plagiarism_a_voiding.cfm

Questions?

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