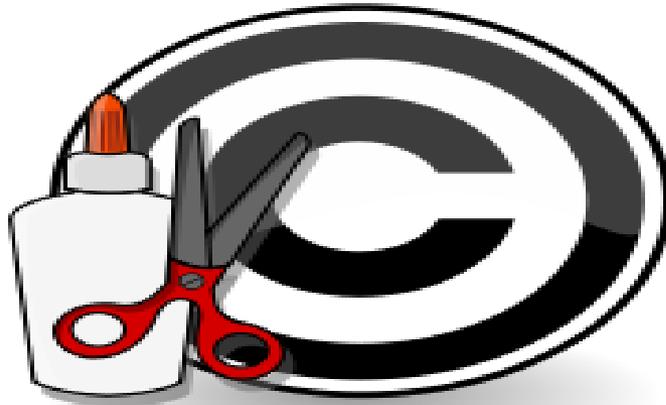


AVOIDING PLAGIARISM



Ouahid A. Z. & Mohammed C. A.
El-Oued University (20121/2022)

OUTLINE

1. What is plagiarism?
2. Possible forms of plagiarism
3. Why students plagiarise
4. Why it is wrong to plagiarise
5. Two types of plagiarism
6. Rationale for academic integrity
7. Do I have to cite everything?
8. Three strategies to avoid plagiarism
9. Tips for avoiding plagiarism
10. Quiz time



1. WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

- The word plagiarism comes from the Latin “plagiarius” meaning “kidnapper”.
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the work of another as your own. If you use the work of someone else and either knowingly or inadvertently claim it as your own creation, you are committing an act of plagiarism.



2. POSSIBLE FORMS OF PLAGIARISM

- Word-for-word copying of another's work without properly acknowledging the source of the information,
- Paraphrasing the work of another without acknowledgement,
- Failing to properly cite your source even if that failure is inadvertent,



2. POSSIBLE FORMS OF PLAGIARISM (CONT)

- Attributing information to a source from which it did not come,
- Submitting material created by another under your name,
- Submitting material created by yourself and others but claiming the work entirely as your own.



3. WHY STUDENTS PLAGIARISE

- It is easy to do
- Laziness
- Poor time management skills
- Procrastination
- Short time to complete the assignment
- Busy schedule outside of school



3. WHY STUDENTS PLAGIARISE (CONT)

- Lack of fundamental research skills
- Lack of confidence in one's own academic abilities
- Pressure from external forces (parents, friends)
- Cheating is perceived as acceptable nowadays



4. WHY IT IS WRONG TO PLAGIARISE

- Plagiarism is a form of intellectual **theft**.
- The legal copyright owner has the exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, display, perform, and make derivative copies of the work.
- Using the **copyrighted** material of another person without permission, or without properly identifying your source is essentially stealing someone else's property.



5. TWO TYPES OF PLAGIARISM

○ Intentional

- Copying a friend's work
- Buying or borrowing papers
- Cutting and pasting blocks of text from electronic sources without documenting
- Media "borrowing" without documentation
- Web publishing without permissions of creators



5. TWO TYPES OF PLAGIARISM (CONT)

○ Unintentional

- Careless paraphrasing
- Poor documentation
- Quoting excessively
- Failure to use your own “voice”



6. RATIONALE FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- Cheating is an unethical behavior.
- When you copy you cheat yourself. You limit your own learning.
- The consequences are not worth the risks!
- Citing gives authority to your paper
- Citing makes it possible for your readers to locate your source
- Education is not an “us vs. them” game! It’s about learning to learn!



7. DO I HAVE TO CITE EVERYTHING?

BIG NO!

- Facts that are widely known, and
- Information or judgments considered “common knowledge”

Need no documentation!



8. THREE STRATEGIES TO AVOID PLAGIARISM

- I. Paraphrasing
- II. Summarising
- III. Quoting



I. PARAPHRASING

- Paraphrasing means rephrasing the words of an author, putting his/her thoughts in your own words.
- Like quotations, paraphrased material must be followed by **in-text citation** and cited on your **References** page.
- **APA** format follows the **author-date** method of in-text citation



Paraphrase when:

- You plan to use information on your note cards/fact sheet and wish to avoid plagiarising
- You want to avoid overusing quotations
- You want to use your own voice to present information



RULE (APA)

- When you paraphrase, state the **author's last name** and the **year of publication** for the source in the text (in-text citation).

Example:

- * **Harmer (1998)** argues that there is a good reason to teach writing to EFL learners.
- * There is a good reason to teach writing to EFL learners (**Harmer, 1998**).



SIX PARAPHRASING TOOLS

- Replace some of the words with synonyms.
- Make a positive verb into a negative one.
- Change active constructions to passive, and vice versa.
- Change words into other parts of speech: adjectives into verbs, verbs into nouns, etc.
- Combine sentences with connecting words (like and).
- Move parts of sentences around (change positions within the sentence).



II. SUMMARISING

- Summarizing involves putting the main idea(s) of one or several writers into your own words, including only the main point(s). Summaries are significantly shorter than the original and take a broad overview of the source material.
- Again, it is necessary to attribute summarised ideas to their original sources.



Summarise when:

- You want to establish background or offer an overview of a topic
- You want to describe knowledge (from several sources) about a topic
- You want to determine the main ideas of a single source

N.B. Use the same rule for citing the source as for paraphrasing.



III. QUOTING

- Quotations are the exact words of an author, copied directly from a source, word for word. Quotations must be cited!

Quote when:

- You want to add the power of an author's words to support your argument
- You want to disagree with an author's argument



- You want to highlight particularly eloquent or powerful phrases or passages
- You are comparing and contrasting specific points of view
- You want to note the important research that precedes your own quoting



RULE (APA)

When you use a direct **quote**, add the **number** of the page in your in-text citation in addition to the **author's last name** and date of **publicatoin**. Put the quote between quotation marks.

Example:

- * **Ajzen (2005)** defines attitude as "a disposition to respond favorably or unfavorably to an object, person, institution, or event" (p. 3).



* An attitude is “a disposition to respond favorably or unfavorably to an object, person, institution, or event” (Ajzen, 2005, p. 3).

NB. All sources that are cited in the text must appear in the **Reference** page at the end of the paper.



9. TIPS ON AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

- Familiarise yourself with the basics of the research writing process, including the citing of sources
- Make note of all the sources you consult during the research process
- Remember that paraphrasing the ideas of another still requires proper citation
- 3-word Rule: Do not copy more than three consecutive words from a source.



- Properly cite the sources you use in your paper
- Proofread the final version of your paper to ensure that all the sources you used are cited correctly
- If unsure whether to cite a source or how to cite it properly, ask your instructor



10. QUIZ TIME!

Determine whether or not the following are examples of plagiarism.





Is it plagiarism?



Example #1

ORIGINAL SOURCE:

The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940. During years of normal precipitation, the excessive root system of the wheat plants held the soil and offered excellent protection against wind erosion.

STUDENT PAPER:

“The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940” (Hurt, 1981, p. 29-30).

References

Hurt, R. D. (1981). *The dust bowl: An agricultural and social history*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall.



ANSWER #1

No, it is not.

Since the quoted material is enclosed in quotation marks and the source is cited correctly and completely, this is not an incident of plagiarism.



Example #2

ORIGINAL SOURCE:

The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940. During years of normal precipitation, the excessive root system of the wheat plants held the soil and offered excellent protection against wind erosion.

STUDENT PAPER:

The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940 (Hurt, 1981, p. 29-30).

References

Hurt, R. D. (1981). *The dust bowl: An agricultural and social history*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall.



ANSWER #2

Yes, it is.

The text from the source is quoted verbatim but it is not enclosed in quotation marks. A direct quotation of an author's words must be enclosed in quotation marks.



Example #3

ORIGINAL SOURCE USED:

The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940. During years of normal precipitation, the excessive root system of the wheat plants held the soil and offered excellent protection against wind erosion. In the droughty Thirties, however, the inadequate moisture supply prevented a suitable growth of ground cover in the early Spring "blow season" of February, March, and April. The drought then began a chain of events, the first of which was crop failure.

STUDENT PAPER:

The wind erosion problem of the Great Plains occurred because the drought prevented farmers from growing hardly any wheat from 1932 to 1940. Normally, the excessive root system of the wheat plants held the soil and offered excellent protection against wind erosion, but in the Thirties, the inadequate moisture supply prevented a suitable growth of ground cover.

References

None



ANSWER #3

Yes, this is plagiarism.

The student has paraphrased the author's words, but has not cited the author as the source of the information.



Example #4

ORIGINAL SOURCE:

The wind erosion problem of the southern Great Plains did not occur because farmers grew too much wheat, but because the drought prevented them from growing hardly any wheat at all from 1932 to 1940. During years of normal precipitation, the excessive root system of the wheat plants held the soil and offered excellent protection against wind erosion. In the droughty Thirties, however, the inadequate moisture supply prevented a suitable growth of ground cover in the early Spring “blow season” of February, March, and April. The drought then began a chain of events, the first of which was crop failure.

STUDENT PAPER:

During years of normal precipitation, the excessive root system of the wheat plant helps to hold the soil in place and lessens wind erosion. During the 1930s, however, drought prevented farmers from growing almost any wheat at all, and this prevented the growth of necessary ground cover. This crop failure was the first in a chain of events that resulted in the Dust Bowl (Hurt, 1981).

References

Hurt, R. D. (1981). *The dust bowl: An agricultural and social history*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall.

ANSWER #4

No, this is not plagiarism.

The author's words and ideas have been paraphrased, and credit has been correctly given to the author.



Example #5

In her paper, a student mentions that George Washington was the first President of the United States. Does this source of this fact need to be cited?



ANSWER #5

No.

Since this fact is common knowledge to all, citation is not necessary.



HELPFUL RESOURCES

CMU Writing Center:

http://www.chsbs.cmich.edu/writing_center/

The Online Writing Lab at Purdue University:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

Citing Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism (from The Duke University Libraries):

<http://library.duke.edu/research/plagiarism/>



Thank You!

