

Plagiarism

Prepared for Monash University
English Language Centre

www.monash.edu/englishcentre

TRUE or FALSE

1. Going online and copying selected portions of others' works as long as you change a few words is not considered plagiarism.
2. If you copy a "unique phrase" from someone else without documenting it, it is plagiarism.
3. Professors can easily distinguish between deliberate and accidental plagiarism.
4. Plagiarism is simply a matter of the number of words that you borrow.

TRUE or FALSE

5. Writing about commonly held beliefs or specific facts that are common knowledge without documentation is not plagiarism.
6. Borrowing a paper written by a friend and then handing it in is acceptable as long as the friend is in another class with another teacher.
7. Buying an essay online or from another source can make your life a whole lot easier, especially if you hate the subject.

TRUE or FALSE

- 8. If you are in doubt, you should always document your source.
- 9. If you are using charts and graphs from your textbook, you do not need to document it in your essay.
- 10. Using an essay that you wrote for another course without getting permission from the professor in the former and current class is also a form of plagiarism.

TRUE or FALSE

- 11. Using photographs, video or audio without references is plagiarism.
- 12. If you go to a writing lab (ILC) and get the person to fix your work by correcting mistakes and adding more impressive words or ideas, that's not a form of plagiarism.
- 13. Borrowing the work of another student is not as serious as borrowing from a published author.

**PLAGIARISM
IS AN
ACADEMIC
OFFENCE**

Example Paragraph

Plagiarised Paragraph

Around the world, the job of managers has been to give orders, see that orders are followed and hold people responsible if they do not comply. All that is changing. Future organizations will still need managers to co-ordinate the work activities of their workers, but their role will change.

Original Paragraph

“Around the globe, the job of managers has been to give orders, to see that orders are followed and to hold people accountable if they do not comply. All that is now changing. Organizations of the future will still need managers to co-ordinate the work activities of their employees, but their role will change” (Robbins, Bergman, Stagg & Coulter, 2003, p. 14).

Plagiarised Paragraph

- Around the world, the job of managers has been to give orders, see that orders are followed and hold people responsible if they do not comply. All that is changing. Future organisations will still need managers to co-ordinate the work activities of their workers, but their role will change.

Part of the Quotation used without Acknowledgement

- Around the globe, the job of managers has been to give orders and to see that they are followed and to ensure that people are held accountable if they do not comply. It is believed that “organizations of the future will still need managers to co-ordinate the work activities of their employees, but their role will change” (Robbins, Bergman, Stagg and Coulter, 2003, p. 14).

What Is Plagiarism?

“The practice of using another writer’s ideas or observations and presenting them as your own is called *plagiarism*” (Summers & Smith, 2003, p. 16).

Plagiarism happens when you:

- copy small and large blocks of text that are not referenced including a lack of quotation marks
- do not paraphrase appropriately
- use an idea in either printed or electronic form without acknowledging the person responsible

Paraphrase and Cite

Original

- “Around the globe, the job of managers has been to give orders, see that orders are followed and hold people accountable if they do not comply. All that is now changing. Organizations of the future will still need managers to co-ordinate the work activities of their employees, but their role will change” (Robbins, Bergman, Stagg & Coulter, 2003, p. 14).

Paraphrase

Plagiarism

Original

- “A main objective of an import tariff is to protect domestic producers from foreign competition” (Carbaugh, 2003, p. 105).

Plagiarism

- “A main objective of an import tariff is to protect domestic producers from foreign competition.”

Not Plagiarism

Original

- “A main objective of an import tariff is to protect domestic producers from foreign competition” (Carbaugh, 2003, p. 105).

Not Plagiarism

- Carbaugh (2003) claims that import tariffs ostensibly give local manufacturers an advantage over overseas imports.

Dealing with terminology

Original source

Williams, A., Dobson, P. & Walters, M. (1989), *Changing culture*, The Institute of Personnel Management, London, 20.

Organisational cultures vary according to the nature of the beliefs, values, and attitudes that are commonly held. These reflect differences in society, history and function.

Dealing with terminology (cont'd)

A paraphrase (NOT plagiarism)

As explained by Walters et al. (1989), just as beliefs, attitudes and values which express the different society's history and function differ, so too do organizational cultures.

Paraphrase Individual Sentences 1

- “Communication skills refer to the manager’s abilities to both effectively convey ideas and information to others and to effectively receive ideas and information from others” (Davidson, Jones, Gottschalk, Hunt, Wood & Griffin, 2006, p. 132).

Practice Paraphrase

Exercise 1

Paraphrase the passage from *Marketing* (Kottler, Brown, Adam & Armstrong, 2004, p. 65) using these five steps:

1. read the paragraph until you understand it
2. highlight aspects that provide for synonyms, change of voice and reporting verbs
3. write the paraphrase without looking at the original
4. compare it with the original
5. reference the text

Monash University Plagiarism Policy

--- Why you should not plagiarise

- You may have to resubmit your work.
- You may fail your unit or course.
- It is not acceptable.
- Your submitted work can be re-checked.
- Plagiarism --- copying --- cheating --- is easily identified by lecturers.

Review: What is Plagiarism?

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Review: Paraphrasing in Five Steps

- Keep reading the paragraph until you understand it.
- Highlight aspects that provide for synonyms, change of voice and reporting verbs.
- Without looking at the original write the paraphrase.
- Compare it with the original.
- Write the details of the text.

Relevant links

Links to the Monash University policy on plagiarism and an interactive quiz on plagiarism :

<http://www.lib.monash.edu/tutorials/citing-plagiarism.html>

Relevant Links (cont.)

[http://www.georgebrown.ca/saffairs/stusucc/
plagiarism/selfassessment.aspx](http://www.georgebrown.ca/saffairs/stusucc/plagiarism/selfassessment.aspx)

[http://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/
learningServices/Harvard Referencing.pdf](http://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/learningServices/Harvard%20Referencing.pdf)
