Plagiarism

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What is Plagiarism

Why do we do research?

- Why?
  - To contribute to knowledge
- How?
  - By building on the work of orders (Standing on the shoulder of giants)

Therefore

- We are expected to place our research in the right context:
  - to show that we are aware of what else is happening
  - to show that we understand where our work fits
- Hence, our reports must contain an analysis of similar/relevant works

When reporting our research:

We must make clear distinctions between the following:

- our own original work
- our opinion about the work of others
- the claims of others we are reporting, and
- what is actually said by others (*verbatim*)

'Work' can be ideas, descriptions, research, data, opinions, pictures, figures, tables, etc.

It should still be possible for the reader/examiner to tell the difference between your own work, your opinion of the work of others, and the verbatim words of others

What is plagiarism?

- Plagiarize is from the Latin word, **plagiare** which means "to kidnap"

- ''It involves stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward'' *(Sox 2000)*

- ''copying'' part of someone else's published work and using it without showing that it is borrowed from someone else.

- ''when someone uses another person's words, ideas, or work and pretends they are their own' *(Longman Contemporary English Advanced Learner's Dictionary)*

- ''to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source'' *(Merriam-Webster)*

What is plagiarism?

'Plagiarism is the appropriation of other people's material without giving proper credit'' *(The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity)*

''Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit'' *(US Federal Policy on Research Misconduct).*

So, the basic ideas seem to be that someone deliberately takes someone else's work, whether in the form of an idea, a method, data, results, or text, and presents it as their own instead of giving credit to the person whose ideas, results, or words it is.

Common to these definitions is that plagiarism is composed of two parts:

to appropriate the work of someone else and

passing it off as one's own by not giving proper credit.

All the following are considered plagiarism:

1. turning in someone else's work as your own

2. copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit

3. failing to put a quotation in quotation marks

4. giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation

5. changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit

6. copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)

Source: www.plagiarism.org

How common is plagiarism?

Internet plagiarism is on the rise.

A 23-campus study published in 2002 revealed that 38% admitted to having plagiarized the previous year.

25% of graduate students surveyed admitted to "cut-and-paste" plagiarism.

- Donald McCabe, et al.

How common is plagiarism?

A recent study by Martinson, et al., indicates that of 3,247 US scientists:

- 1.4% use another's ideas without obtaining permission or giving due credit.

- 4.7 publish the same data or results in two or more publications.

- 33% admit to some other form of ethically questionable misbehavior.

Martinson, B. C., Anderson, M. S., & de Vries, R. (2005). Scientists behaving badly. Nature, 435, 737-738.

How common is plagiarism?

Office of Research Integrity (ORI) of the USA:

- From 1992 2005 ORI reported a total of 159 cases of scientific misconduct, 19 (12%) of which involved plagiarism.

National Science Foundation (NSF) of the USA:

- In the same period, the NSF reported that 66% of their cases of scientific misconduct involved a finding of plagiarism.
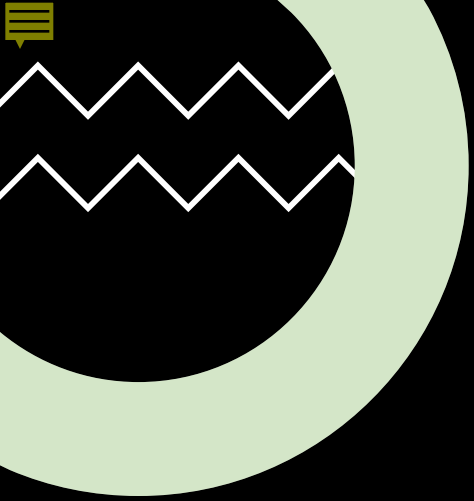
Consequences of Plagiarism

- Destroyed professional and academic reputation

- Harms institutions' reputations

- Legal Repercussions: May involve copyright issues or even legal issues

- Monetary repercussion: The author of the original item may need to be compensated

- Medical issues: Plagiarized medical research could lead to disability or loss of lives. This is because deliberate plagiarism induces pointless and often fake research.

- The consequences of plagiarism are far-reaching, and no one is immune. Neither ignorance nor stature excuses a person from the ethical and legal ramifications of committing plagiarism.

Types of Plagiarism

Types of Plagiarism

Type of plagiarism	Definition	Severity
Global plagiarism	Presenting an entire text by someone else as your own work.	Severe
Paraphrasing plagiarism	Rephrasing someone else's ideas without citation.	Serious
Verbatim plagiarism	Directly copying a passage of text without citation.	Serious
Mosaic plagiarism	Combining text and ideas from different sources without citation.	Serious
Self-plagiarism	Reusing passages and ideas from your own previously submitted work.	Moderate
Incorrect citation	Failing to give all the necessary information in your source citation.	Moderate

Global plagiarism

- Global plagiarism means taking an entire work by someone else and passing it off as your own.

- It is one of the most serious type of plagiarism because it involves deliberately and directly lying about the authorship of a work

Paraphrasing plagiarism

- Paraphrasing means rephrasing a piece of text in your own words.

- Paraphrasing without citation is the most common type of plagiarism.

- Paraphrasing itself is not plagiarism so long as you properly cite your sources. However, paraphrasing becomes plagiarism when you read a source and then rewrite its key points as if they were your own ideas.

- Additionally, if you translate a piece of text from another language, you need correctly cite the original source.

- A translation without a source is still plagiarism, as you're using someone else's ideas.

Why is paraphrasing plagiarism?

If you steal your someone's pillow and put it in your pillowcase, it is still that person's pillow, right?

It's no different if you take an idea from someone else—it's still their idea, not yours.

What is Paraphrasing?

- Perhaps the best working definition for paraphrasing is :
  - to restate another's work in <u>your own words</u> but maintain the author's original meaning.

How to check that your Paraphrase is good

- Use the "**4 Musts**" & "**5 Finger Checklist**" contained in the next 2 slides to determine whether your paraphrase is good or bad.

The 5-Finger Checklist for Paraphrasing

1. Reread the original passage carefully in order to fully understand the concept & author's meaning.
2. Identify the main points of the passage.
3. Rewrite the passage in your own words (*not just substituting synonyms or order for some of the text*).

4. Compare your text to the original and use the 5-word test:
   - (If you count more than 5 exact words, you need to change it!)
5. Build in the in-text citation according to the approved style

The 4 "Musts" for Paraphrasing

A paraphrase must:

1. Be in your own words!
2. Be near or longer than the original passage.
3. Be used to explain a difficult/complex concept or passage.
4. Convey the original meaning.

Verbatim plagiarism (copy & paste)

- You commit verbatim plagiarism when you directly copy text from a source and paste it into your own document without attribution.

- If the structure and most of the words are the same as in the original, then it is verbatim plagiarism, even if you delete or change some words.

- If you want to use an author's exact words, you need to quote the original source **by putting the copied text in quotation marks and including an in-text citation**.

Mosaic plagiarism (patchwork plagiarism)

- Mosaic plagiarism (also known as patchwork plagiarism or incremental plagiarism) means copying phrases, passages and ideas from different sources and putting them together to create a new text.

- This includes slightly rephrasing passages while keeping many of the same words and structure as the original.

- This type of plagiarism requires a little more effort and is more insidious than just copying and pasting from a source, but plagiarism checkers like Turnitin can still easily detect it.

Citing Incorrectly

- The key to avoiding plagiarism is citing your sources.

- You need to correctly format your citations according to the rules of the citation style you are following.

- If you don't include all the necessary information or you put it in the wrong place, you could be committing plagiarism.

- Most styles require in-text citations plus a reference list or bibliography at the end of your paper, where you give full details of every source you cited.

Self-Plagiarism:

Can one steal from one self?

Plagiarizing your own work (self-plagiarism)

- Self-plagiarism means reusing work that you've previously submitted.
- Even though it's your own work, it's considered dishonest to present a paper or a piece of data as brand new when you've already gotten credit for the work.
- There are a couple of different versions of self-plagiarism.

Plagiarizing your own work (self-plagiarism)

Self-plagiarism can also occur when you use ideas, phrases or data from your previous works.

As with paraphrasing, reworking old ideas and passages is not inherently plagiarism, but you should cite your previous work to make the origins clear.

Plagiarism vs. self-plagiarism

Plagiarism refers to the misappropriation of others' ideas, words, images, design properties, data, musical notes, etc.

Self-plagiarism refers to authors' re-use of their earlier work and passing it of as new or original material.

Forms of Professional Self-plagiarism

Duplicate publication/presentation - Submitting a paper to a journal or conference which had been previously written for journal or conference under a slightly different title.

Redundant publication occurs when some portion of previously published data is used again in a new publication with no indication that the data had been published earlier.

Forms of Professional Self-plagiarism

Fragmented or piecemeal publication - occurs when a complex study is broken down into two or more components and each component is analyzed and published as a separate paper.

Augmented publication - occurs when a simpler study is made more complex by the addition of more observations or experimental conditions.

Forms of Professional Self-plagiarism

Salami Slicing - Using data from a large, complex study and segmenting it to produce two or more papers.

Text recycling - Reusing portions of previously published text in a new publication without reference to the original.

The essence of self-plagiarism in all the above instances is that the reader is not made aware of the duplication.

Many do not believe self-plagiarism is unethical

- In a study of health educators, Price, et al. (2001) reported that 64% of their sample stated that self-plagiarism is an acceptable behavior

Price, J. H., Dake, J. A., Islam, R. (2001). Selected ethical issues in research and publication: Perceptions of health education faculty. Health Education and Behavior, 28, 51-64.

Why self-plagiarism is problematic

It misleads the reader into thinking that the material is new.

It flouts journals' requirements that works submitted to them have not been published before

Instructions for Authors

Manuscript Submission

Manuscript Submission

Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

Preventing Plagiarism

Five steps to avoid plagiarism

- Keep track of the **sources** you consult in your research.
- **Paraphrase or quote** from your sources .
- Credit the original author in an in-text **citation** and **reference list**.
- Beware of **cutting and pasting**
- Use a **plagiarism checker** before you submit.

When do you need to cite a source?

Whenever you use the

- words (written or spoken)

- ideas

- formulae

- research results

- images or

- data

of another person--**unless that information is common knowledge**

What is "common knowledge?"

"**Common knowledge**" is anything that is considered known by the vast majority of the population—or found in generalized encyclopedias and/or dictionaries. Examples include:

- **Lagos is the largest city in Nigeria**

- **$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ (Pythagoras theorem)**

In those examples, you would <u>not</u> be expected to cite the census or Pythagoras.

Example of when you would be expected to cite a source:

When you're including information that isn't common knowledge, you would want to cite it:

Trauma was one of the most common causes of death and disability in Lagos, Nigeria (Ngim, 2005).

The complete reference for this source would then be found at the end of the paper in the "Reference" page:

Ngim, N. E., Yinusa, W., & Fadero, P. E. (2005). Injuries in children: The Lagos experience. *Nigerian Journal of Orthopaedics and Trauma*, 4(1), 54–60. https://doi.org/10.4314/njotra.v4i1.29252

"Tobacco use was significantly higher among white students (P<.001), users of other substances (alcohol and marijuana) (P<.001), and students whose priorities were social rather than educational or athletic (P<.05)." (Rigotti, Lee and Wechsler, 1999)

The above statement was taken from a scholarly journal.

If a researcher were to include the sentence on the right in a research paper, would it be considered plagiarism?

Students who use alcohol or marijuana are more likely to use tobacco.

Plagiarism or not?

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Using the same sentence above, determine whether the researcher's statement on the right would be considered plagiarism or not.

Athletes are not as likely to use tobacco as those students who attend college with the aim of meeting friends.

Plagiarism or not?

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE CASES IS/ARE PLAGIARISM?

At the beginning, at any rate, the idea of sovereignty was the idea that there is a final and absolute political authority in the political community; and everything that needs to be added to complete the definition is added if this statement is continued in the following words: "and no final and absolute authority exists elsewhere".

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In its earliest manifestations 'sovereignty' was thought to capture the idea that there is an ultimate locus of authority within a given political community. More recent usage tags on the idea that, in addition, no absolute and ultimate authority over that community exists elsewhere.

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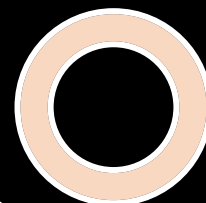
As one authoritative source puts it: 'at the beginning, at any rate, the idea of sovereignty was the idea that there is a final and absolute political authority in the political community; and everything that needs to be added to complete the definition is added if this statement is continued in the following words: "and no final and absolute authority exists elsewhere"'. (Hinsley, 1986: 25-6).

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The discussion of sovereignty has evolved from the classical notion of 'final and absolute authority in a political community' (Hinsley, 1986: 25). These days the term also encompasses the idea that there is no final authority elsewhere (Hinsley, 1986: 26)

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided by citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.

When in doubt...

Cite

Thank You

To ask questions, please join the forum at www.oluwadiya.com