

Plagiarism: An Important Reference Guide

What is it?

Plagiarism is the wrongful appropriation of another person's language, thoughts, ideas or expressions, and the representation of them as one's own original work (Random House Dictionary).

In other words, if you get your ideas or words from a website, another student, a book, etc., and attempt to pass it off as your own work, you have committed academic dishonesty or *plagiarism*.

For the sake of clarity, see the following list of 10 types of plagiarism. If you are still unsure, please ask.

10 Types of Plagiarism (WHITE PAPER: The Plagiarism Spectrum)

1. Clone: An act of submitting another's work, word-for-word, as one's own.
2. CTRL-C: A written piece that contains significant portions of text from a single source without alterations.
3. **Find-Replace: The act of changing key words or phrases but retaining the essential content of the source in a paper.**
4. **Remix: An act of paraphrasing from other sources and making the content fit together seamlessly.**
5. Recycle: The act of borrowing generously from one's own previous work without citation; To self plagiarize.
6. Hybrid: The act of combining perfectly cited sources with copied passages – without citation – in one paper.
7. Mashup: A paper that represents a mix of copied material from several different sources without proper citation.
8. **404 Error: A written piece that includes citations to non-existent or inaccurate information about sources.**
9. Aggregator: The "Aggregator" includes proper citation, but the paper contains almost no original work.
10. Re-Tweet: This paper includes proper citation, but relies too closely on the text's original wording and/or structure.

What Happens if you Plagiarize?

Guaranteed:

- **Your parent/guardian will be notified of the offence**
- **The Head of the English Department will be notified of the offence**
- **Your Vice Principal will be notified of the offence**
- **You will NOT be given credit for the plagiarized work**

Potentially:

- **You may be offered the opportunity to complete an alternative assignment under supervision for a maximum of 50%**
- **You may be given a ZERO on the assignment**
- **You may be required to meet with the department head for counseling regarding academic dishonesty**