

Plagiarism

what it is and how to avoid it

Presented by:
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Reference Librarian

Session Overview

□ What It Is

- Terminology
- Legal Implications
- Four Types of Plagiarism

□ How to Avoid It

- Methods
- Proper Quotations
- Proper Citations

□ Q & A Time!



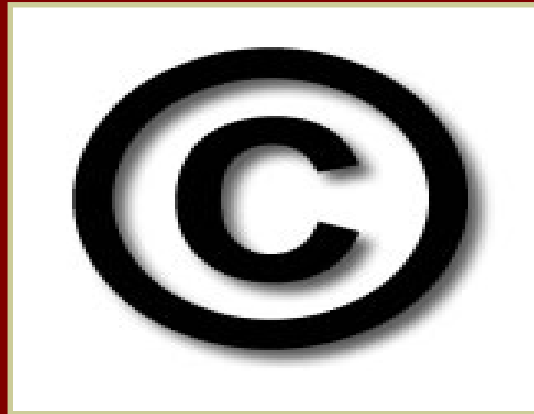
Terminology: *Plagiarism*

Plagiarism is the act of stealing someone else's work and attempting to "pass it off" as your own. This can apply to anything, from term papers to photographs to songs, even ideas!



Terminology: *Copyright*

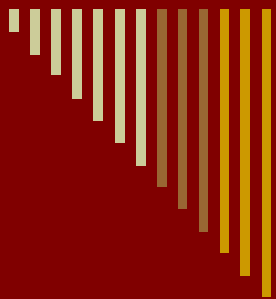
Copyright is "a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of 'original works of authorship,' including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works. This protection is available to both published and unpublished works." (U.S. Copyright Office)



Terminology: *Fair Use*

Fair Use is a statute under copyright law that allows for the use of *limited portions* of a work that has copyright without having to have permission from the original author. It was created for the purposes of education and research. It's a little harder to pin down than **plagiarism** or **copyright**. I mean, what qualifies as a "limited portion"?





More on Fair Use

The Copyright Office isn't very helpful on defining what a "**limited portion**" is. It only states that "there is no specific number of words, lines, or notes that may safely be taken without permission." When using someone else's work, it's best to always give credit where credit's due, even if using only a small part. If you're unsure, then ask for permission.



Shakespeare

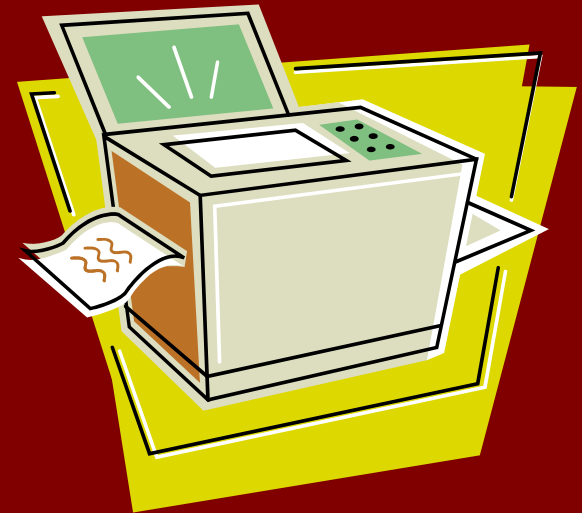
Legal Implications

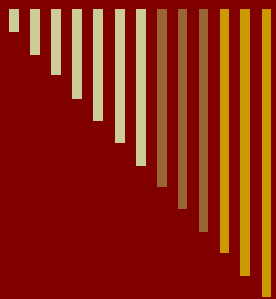
- Is it against the law?
- How is it applied at the college level?
 - Most schools and universities have policies on cheating and plagiarism.
- ULM's policy (see pages 7-9) is very clear:
 - First offense: failing grade on assignment
 - Second offense: failing grade for the course
 - Third offense: suspension



Types of Plagiarism: Copying

The most well-known and, sadly, the most common type of plagiarism is the simplest: **copying**. If you copy someone else's work and put your name on it, you have plagiarized.





Copying: An Example

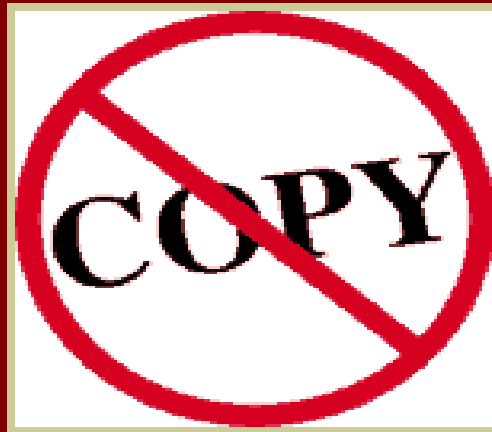
"Children are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness; it is the rare child who labels a parent shy [...] This is understandable, since parents are in positions of control and authority in their homes and may not reveal their shy side to their children. Also, since shyness is viewed as undesirable by many children, it may be threatening to think of parents in these terms. At this young age, the parent is still idealized as all-knowing and all-powerful - - not dumb, ugly, or weak."

Zimbardo, Philip G. (1977). *Shyness: What it is, what to do about it*. Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Books.



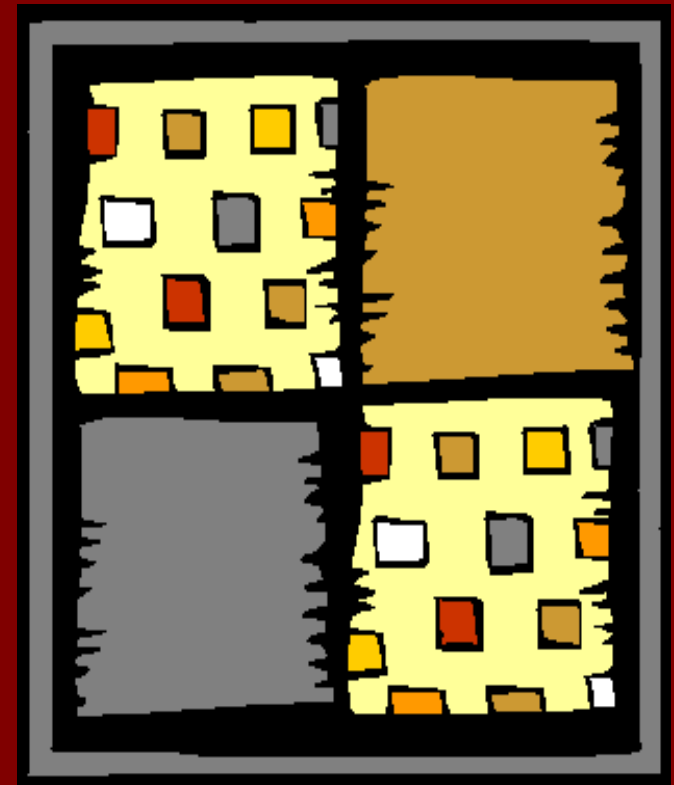
Copying: An Example

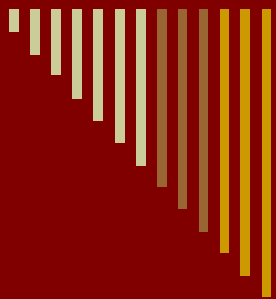
This one is pretty straightforward. If a writer copies, word for word, the text from Dr. Zimbardo's book and does not acknowledge in any way that it was Dr. Zimbardo's work, the writer has committed plagiarism.



Types: Patchwork Plagiarism

The second kind of plagiarism is similar to copying and is perhaps the second most common type of plagiarism: **patchwork plagiarism**. This occurs when the plagiarizer borrows the "phrases and clauses from the original source and weaves them into his own writing" (McConnell Library, Radford University) without putting the phrases in quotation marks or citing the author.



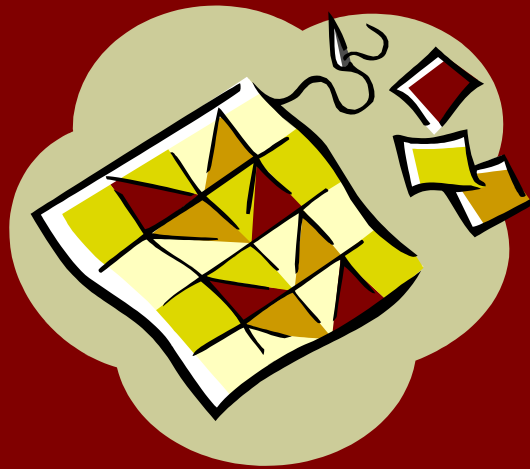


Patchwork: An Example

With regard to children, *they are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness*. Rare is the child who labels a parent shy. It is easy to understand this, since the parents are in *positions of control and authority* in their own homes and may not necessarily show *their shy side to their children*. Moreover, since shyness is viewed as unfavorable by most children, *it may be threatening* for them to think of their parents in that light. During the formative years, the parent is *idealized as all-knowing and all-powerful -- not dumb, ugly, or weak*.

Patchwork: An Example

Now, had the "author" of this passage put the colored phrases in quotation marks and added a citation after the quotation, like (Zimbardo 62), the "author" would have been safe. Without the quotation marks and the proper citation, the "author" has committed plagiarism.





Types: Paraphrasing Plagiarism

The third type of plagiarism is called **paraphrasing plagiarism**. This occurs when the plagiarizer paraphrases or summarizes another's work without citing the source. Even changing the words a little or using synonyms but retaining the author's essential thoughts, sentence structure, and/or style without citing the source is still considered plagiarism.





Paraphrasing: An Example

Children are completely insensitive to their parents' shyness and rarely label their parents as shy. Because the parents are the authority and controlling figures in the home, they may not feel shy and therefore not show their shy side. Moreover, during the formative years, parents are seen as omnipotent and omniscient and not stupid, unattractive, or pathetic; it may be frightening for children to view their parents in terms of shyness.

Paraphrasing: An Example

Now, had the "author" of this paragraph used footnotes or parenthetical citations to acknowledge Dr. Zimbardo's work, he or she would have been in the clear. However, since the "author" acts like these ideas are his or her own, and does not acknowledge Dr. Zimbardo, it's plagiarism.





Types: Unintentional

The fourth type of plagiarism is called **unintentional plagiarism** -- it occurs when the writer incorrectly quotes and/or incorrectly cites a source they are using. How is this plagiarism, if the author didn't mean to do it?

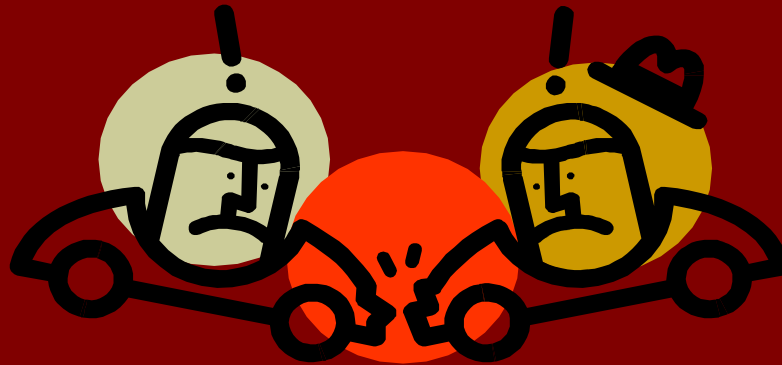


Types: Unintentional

If a writer has incorrectly quoted or incorrectly cited a source, this is unintentional plagiarism. The writer's intent is not to steal, but the result is the same. Most of the time, unintentional plagiarism is the result of incorrect usage of another's work, whether intentional or not, could be taken for "real" plagiarism.

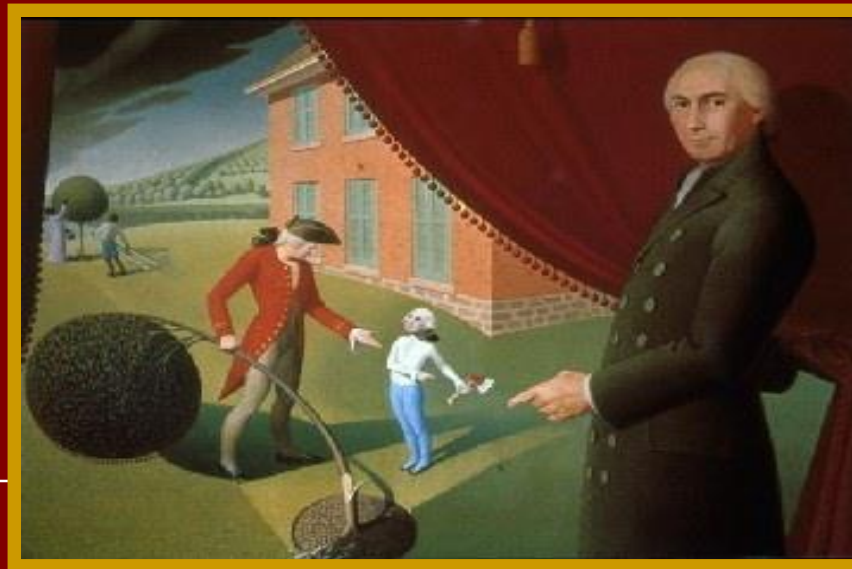
Also: WE DON'T READ MINDS.

We don't know what you *MEANT* to do!



Avoiding Plagiarism

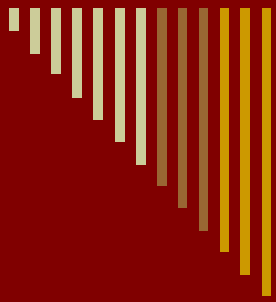
Avoiding plagiarism is quite simple. The best method for avoiding it is to **simply be honest**; when you've used a source in your paper, give credit where it's due. Acknowledge the author of the original work you've used.





Avoiding Plagiarism

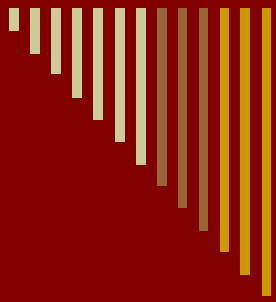
- Another way to avoid plagiarism is to **use your own work as often as possible**. Quoting and citing sources is usually required and inevitable when doing research -- that's how you "back up" your own work. But using someone else's work excessively can be construed as plagiarism.
 - Another way to it is to **quote and/or cite your sources properly**.
-



Proper Quotations

In order to properly quote your sources, you should consult the style manual that would be appropriate for the research. In most cases, your professor will tell you which style manual would be preferred. If your professor doesn't indicate which manual to use, be sure to ask.

The following examples are formatted in MLA, APA, and Chicago (Turabian is similar to Chicago) formats. The text is taken from the passage we saw earlier from Zimbardo.



MLA Quotations

- **Indirect**: Some researchers note that "children are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness" (Zimbardo 62).
- **Direct**: Zimbardo notes that "children are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness" (62).
- **Paraphrasing**: Some researchers have observed that children seem unaware that their parents are considered bashful (Zimbardo 62).



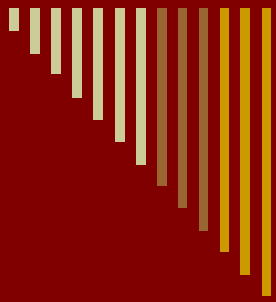
APA or Chicago Quotations

- **Indirect**: Some researchers note that "children are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness" (Zimbardo, 1977, p.62).
- **Direct**: Zimbardo (1977) notes that "Children are totally insensitive to their parents' shyness" (p. 62).
- **Paraphrasing**: Some researchers have observed that children seem oblivious to their parents' bashfulness (Zimbardo, 1977).



Proper Citations

In order to properly cite your sources, you should also consult the style manual that would be appropriate for the research. The following examples are formatted in MLA, APA, and Chicago (Turabian is similar to Chicago) formats. The citation is related to the passage we saw earlier from Zimbardo.



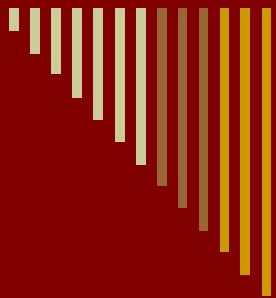
MLA Citations

□ Book

Zimbardo, Philip G. *Shyness: What It Is, What To Do About It*. Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Books, 1977. Print.

□ Essay/Chapter in a Book

Swanson, Gunnar. "Graphic Design Education as a Liberal Art: Design and Knowledge in the University and The 'Real World.'" *The Education of a Graphic Designer*. Ed. Steven Heller. New York: Allworth Press, 1998. 13-24. Print.



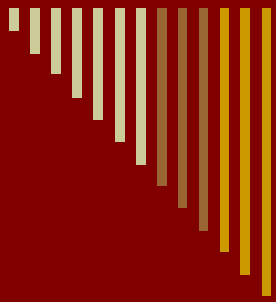
MLA Citations

□ Article

Bagchi, Alaknanda. "Conflicting Nationalisms: The Voice of the Subaltern in Mahasweta Devi's Bashai Tudu." *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature* 15.1 (1996): 41-50. Print.

□ Article from a Database

Langhamer, Claire. "Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England." *Historical Journal* 50.1 (2007): 173-96. *ProQuest*. Web. 27 May 2009.



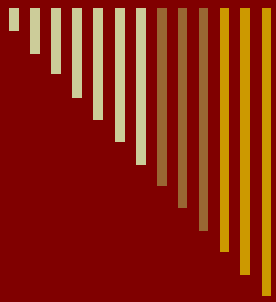
MLA Citations

□ Entire Website

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 6 September 2012.

□ Page on a Website

"How to Make Vegetarian Chili." *eHow.com*. eHow, n.d. Web. 24 Feb. 2012.



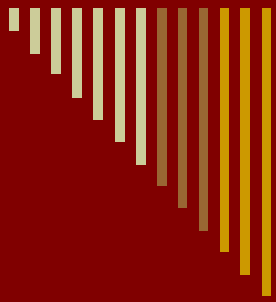
APA Citations

□ Book

Zimbardo, P.G. (1977). *Shyness: What it is, what to do about it*. Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Books.

□ Essay/Chapter in a Book

O'Neil, J. M., & Egan, J. (1992). Men's and women's gender role journeys: Metaphor for healing, transition, and transformation. In B. R. Wainrib (Ed.), *Gender issues across the life cycle* (pp. 107-123). New York: Springer.



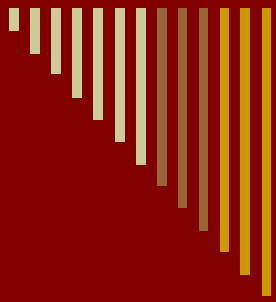
APA Citations

□ Article

Scruton, R. (1996). The eclipse of listening. *The New Criterion*, 15(30), 5-13.

□ Article from a Database

APA does not require that a citation for an article in a database document that fact. You can cite an article you find in a database the same way you'd cite a regular print article, as in the example above.



APA Citations

□ Website

Lowe, M. (2012). Megan Lowe @ ULM. January 29, 2012, from <http://www.ulm.edu/~lowe>.

□ Item Without Author

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary (10th ed.).(1993). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.



Q & A Time!



Plagiarism Presentation Resources

- Presentation URL

<http://www.ulm.edu/~lowe/plagiarism.ppt>

- The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

- My Website

<http://www.ulm.edu/~lowe>

- My Email: lowe@ulm.edu





Thanks for coming!



Remember, if you need help,
just ask at the Reference Desk!
We'll be glad to help!
