## What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is like "lip-synching to someone else's voice and accepting the applause and rewards for yourself."

(Ontario School Library Association)



(Thaves and Thaves)

## Origin of the Word "Plagiarism"

Plagarius: Latin for "kidnapper"!

(Ontario School Library Association)



(Coverly)

### INTRODUCTION

You are probably familiar with debates about pirating movies and music, and you may also be familiar with controversies around the theft of intellectual property, particularly computer games and software. These are multi-million dollar issues.

Academic institutions have similar problems that, of course, do not cost that much money but that are, nevertheless, taken very seriously.

## INTRODUCTION, continued

Plagiarism is an offence against academic honesty.

As in any institution, there is a code of ethics for students, which demands that when using someone else's words or ideas you must acknowledge them.

### What Our School Board Says About Plagiarism

in BWDSB Administrative Procedure 6951

All sources of information will be appropriately acknowledged.

All reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure work cannot be copied.

In our schools, we strive to help students develop a strong work ethic, the knowledge and skills needed for success beyond school and the character attributes of caring, commitment, dependability, honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility, self-discipline, teamwork and trust. Academic dishonesty hinders students from developing these character attributes and cannot be condoned in our schools.

As a school board, we aim to work collectively ... to "develop strategies for helping students understand the gravity of such behaviour and the importance of acknowledging the work of others" (*Growing Success* 42).

It is essential that students and parents are aware of board policies as they relate to academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is often indicative of other concerns for a student, such as a student's understanding of the assignment, academic inability to complete the work, time management or personal issues outside of school.



## Definitions from Our School Board Policy

**Cheating** is defined as acting dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage; gaining an advantage over or depriving of something by using unfair or deceitful methods; defrauding ("Cheat").

**Plagiarism** is defined as the use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another without attribution, in order to represent them as one's own original work (*Growing Success* 151).

#### **Prevention and Detection**

Education of students and parents is the most effective manner in which to prevent plagiarism and cheating. "Students must understand that the tests/exams they complete and the assignments they submit for evaluation must be their own work and that cheating and plagiarism will not be condoned" (*Growing Success* 42).

Detection software for monitoring plagiarism will be available for teacher use.



## It is possible to plagiarize...

- entire papers
- paragraphs
- sentences
- phrases
- videos & movies
- ideas
- lab results
- statistics, or
- graphics.

Frequently plagiarized sources can include...

- websites,
- books & articles,
- encyclopedias, or
- your friend's work!

(Ontario School Library Association)



"Plagiarism?" But my roomste gave me permission to use his paper and said I didn't have to cite him."

(Lockman)

## When to Cite

- 1. Directly quoting another person's actual words, whether oral or written;
- 2. Using another person's ideas, opinions, or theories;
- 3. Paraphrasing the words, ideas, opinions, or theories of others, whether oral or written;
- 4. Borrowing facts, statistics, or illustrative material; or
- 5. Offering materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects.

## Consequences of Plagiarism at JDSS

from Bluewater's Administrative Procedure 6951 (2010).

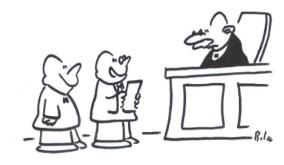
The teacher will discuss the individual situation with the student.

The principal will be informed as appropriate.

The teacher and principal will discuss the individual situation with the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) as appropriate.

#### Consequences may include:

- · redoing part or all of the assignment,
- · completing an alternate assignment,
- · mark deduction, or
- suspension.



"My client pleads not guilty to copyright violation, Your Honor, on the grounds that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."

## What happens when you get caught elsewhere?

- Colleges and universities have sophisticated means of detecting plagiarism.
- Ryerson, University of Toronto, and York
   University have charged such offenders in the
   (Ontario School Library Association)

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PLAGIARISM

# Consequences, in order of increasing severity:

- Failure in courses
- Failure for the <u>year</u>
- Suspensions
- Expulsion from all universities in Canada for up to <u>25 years</u>.

## **How to Avoid Plagiarism**

- Begin the research process by figuring out your own ideas on the topic, BEFORE looking at any other sources.
- Look at other sources. If you copy material, ALWAYS use quotation marks around the copied material, and credit the source.

### How to Avoid Plagiarism, Continued

- If you take ideas and put them in your own words (called "paraphrasing"), credit the source.
- It is not a mistake to use information from sources, BUT it is a mistake not to admit it.

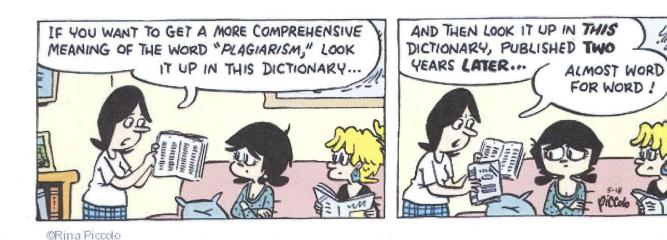


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(Piccolo)

## What Not to Cite

- Your own words or ideas.
- Facts that are part of a body of "common knowledge". When in doubt about what is "common knowledge", ask your teacher.



(Piccolo)

## **Recommended Plagiarism Tutorials**

Watch this tutorial to show a student's thinking process when deciding to cite. <a href="http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/reallifeexamples.html">http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/reallifeexamples.html</a>

Quiz Yourself (This interactive quiz can be done individually or with the whole class.)

http://www.library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/

Quiz Yourself (This interactive quiz can be done individually or with the whole class.)

http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/citeisright.html

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