



Plagiarism and referencing quiz

The following quiz is designed to test your knowledge of plagiarism and referencing.

There are eight multiple choice questions. Answers and explanations are given at the end of the document.

Question 1

Is plagiarism using the ideas and work of another person and submitting them as your own?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.
- c) Maybe.

Question 2

If you plagiarise by mistake, is it still plagiarism?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.
- c) Maybe.

Question 3

Why is it important to reference the sources you use?

- a) So that your tutor can locate all of your sources.
- b) To give context and evidence to your arguments.
- c) To demonstrate your understanding of a topic.
- d) All of the above.

Question 4

Complete the statement: Short direct quotations require...

- a) Quotation marks.
- b) Underlining.
- c) Quotation marks and underlining.

Question 5

Are direct quotations the only thing you need to reference?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.
- c) Maybe.

Question 6

Which of the following should you NOT do when paraphrasing?

- a) Restate information and ideas accurately.
- b) Use your own language and style.
- c) Change just one or two words in a sentence.
- d) Reference the source.

Question 7

Do you need to reference graphics charts and figures?

- a) Yes.
- b) No.
- c) Maybe.

Question 8

Which of the following are also examples of plagiarism?

- a) Copying.
- b) Buying essays online.
- c) Resubmitting previously submitted work.
- d) Submitting an individual assignment created by a group.
- e) All of the above.

Finished? [Check your answers here.](#)

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Quiz answers

1. The correct answer is **a) Yes**, that is the definition of plagiarism. Plagiarism is using someone else's ideas or words and not giving credit. This can include both experts and fellow students in both written assignments, presentations, videos and images.
2. The correct answer is **a) Yes**. Any work or ideas that originated with someone else that you pass off as your own, accidentally or on purpose, is plagiarism. Incorrect referencing and forgetting to include full citations also count as plagiarism.
3. The correct answer is **d) All of the above**. These are all important reasons for referencing. Answer a) is important so that your tutor can locate all of your sources and it shows the breadth of your reading. Answer b) is important as it demonstrates that your work builds on existing scholarship and gives credibility and authority to your arguments and makes your work individual. Answer c) is important as by reading around your subject, forming your own arguments and presenting these backed up by evidence that you reference, you demonstrate your understanding effectively.
4. The correct answer is **a) Quotation marks**. A short quotation only needs to be enclosed in quotation marks. Using lots of direct quotations is discouraged as they should be used selectively to add weight to your argument and when paraphrasing them would lose their meaning.
5. The correct answer is **b) No**. You must also reference ideas you have taken from someone else's work, so your reader can see how you have built on the work of others to form your own ideas. You must reference the following - direct quotations, paraphrasing and summaries. You don't need to reference common knowledge, however if you are not sure it is best to reference just in case.
6. The correct answer is **c) Change just one or two words in a sentence**. It is not enough to just alter one or two words to make the idea your own. You need to clearly restate the concept in your own words to show your own understanding, and must reference your source.
7. The correct answer is **a) Yes**. Graphs, charts and figures also represent the ideas and work of another person, and so must be referenced accordingly.
8. The correct answer is **e) All of the above**. All of these are examples of plagiarism. Copying someone else's work is stealing their ideas, and resubmitting previous work of your own is self-plagiarism. Buying an essay online is obviously not your own work, and any group work you do must be written up individually so you can each provide evidence of your own understanding.

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Summary

It is important to credit the ideas and work of others, not only to avoid getting penalised for plagiarism, but also for your own academic integrity. For more information, see [Unfair means, cheating and plagiarism](#).

It is important to reference your sources to show where you got your information from, as well as to help you avoid plagiarism. In this way you can show your tutor the breadth of your reading and research; show how your work builds on existing scholarship; and demonstrate your understanding of the topic.

Collusion also counts as plagiarism, which can include:

- Paying someone to write an essay for you or buying an essay online.
- Downloading an essay from the internet.
- Asking a friend to rewrite sections for you.
- Copying from a friend or allowing your work to be copied.

Collaboration is authorised group work, where it is permitted to discuss ideas together - however, all written work must be your own. The work of the group must also be acknowledged, or you are committing plagiarism. For more information on the line between collaboration and collusion, visit the [301 Study Skills Online](#) page.

Self-plagiarism is resubmitting previously submitted work. You are expected to produce original work for each assignment.

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You have reached the end of this resource.

This information has been adapted from the [Plagiarism and Referencing quiz tutorial](#).

Why not look at some of our other Research Skills and Critical Thinking resources? [Book onto a Workshop or take an Online Tutorial](#).

Remember to reflect on and record your skills development using [mySkills](#).

University guidance on the use of [unfair means](#).

[Turnitin](#) guidance for students.

For more information on the line between collaboration and collusion, visit the [301 Study Skills Online](#) pages.

Visit our FAQs: [Library FAQs](#)

Get in touch: library@sheffield.ac.uk

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Full URLs

Unfair means, cheating and plagiarism:

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/new-students/unfair-means>

301 Study Skills Online:

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/academic-skills/study-skills-online/collusion>

Plagiarism and Referencing quiz tutorial:

https://librarydevelopment.group.shef.ac.uk/storyline/referencing/plagiarism-ref-quiz/story_html5.html

Research Skills and Critical Thinking Workshops and Tutorials:

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/library/study/research-skills>

mySkills: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/skills/myskills>

University guidance on the use of unfair means:

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/new-students/unfair-means>

Turnitin guidance for students: <https://students.sheffield.ac.uk/digital-learning/turnitin>

Library FAQs: <https://libraryhelp.shef.ac.uk/>

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