

## Module: Plagiarism - What, Why and How? : Summary

### 1. Plagiarism

- To steal and pass off ideas or words of another as one's own
- To use another's work without crediting the source
- To commit literary theft
- Present an idea derived from an existing source as new or original

### 2. If you plagiarise:

- You can be taken to court and have legal proceedings brought against you
- You may be dismissed from education institutions or from your job

### 3. People may plagiarise when they:

- Are rushing to finish a project or meet deadlines
- Are multi-tasking, resulting in workload pressure
- Think they will not get caught
- Think they will get a better grade from the information they found
- Do not understand what is required for their work
- Have a poor attitude or a low level of motivation to do their work

### 4. You may avoid plagiarism by:

- Providing a proper citation list for the resources you have referenced
- Paraphrasing the material to show that you have understood the information