

# Plagiarism



LEADS 2 – Microteach  
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# Plagiarism

- ✓ What is plagiarism?
- ✓ What is NOT plagiarism?
- ✓ Avoiding plagiarism
- ✓ Common knowledge
- ✓ When to reference
- ✓ Where to look for more

# What is plagiarism?

*“Plagiarism involves the act of taking the ideas, writings or inventions of another person and using these as if they were one’s own, whether intentionally or not. Plagiarism occurs where there is no acknowledgement that the writings or ideas belong to or have come from another source.”*

*University's guide to plagiarism*

# What is plagiarism? (2)

- ✓ Plagiarism is:
  - ✓ dishonest;
  - ✓ unprofessional;
  - ✓ cheating;
  - ✓ theft.
- ✓ Plagiarism does not need to be intentional  
*“I didn’t know/understand”* is no excuse

# What is NOT plagiarism?

- ✓ You cannot do research in isolation – you base your work on previous works
  - ✓ *“standing on the shoulders of giants”*
- ✓ Your PhD = drawn from other's work + your own ideas
- ✓ Other's work **must be** acknowledged
- ✓ *You're not committing plagiarism as long as you* **cite it well** – provide reference where needed

# Exercise 1

Which of the following is NOT plagiarism?

Buying, stealing, or borrowing a paper

Hiring someone to write your paper

Copying from another source without citing  
(on purpose or by accident)

Building on someone's ideas without citation

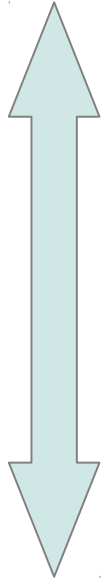
Using the source too closely when paraphrasing



# Exercise 1

All are some form of plagiarism

Deliberate  
Plagiarism



- X** Buying, stealing, or borrowing a paper
- X** Hiring someone to write your paper
- X** Copying from another source without citing (on purpose or by accident)
- X** Building on someone's ideas without citation
- X** Using the source too closely when paraphrasing

Possibly  
Accidental  
Plagiarism

**Plagiarism  
Spectrum**



# Avoiding plagiarism

- ✓ keep details that you will need to cite and reference the source appropriately
- ✓ write summary in your own words – paraphrasing (**must** always provide a citation)
- ✓ use "Quotation marks"
- ✓ adopt a method to clearly distinguish your own ideas from the author's
- ✓ not necessary to provide a reference when you write about something that is common knowledge



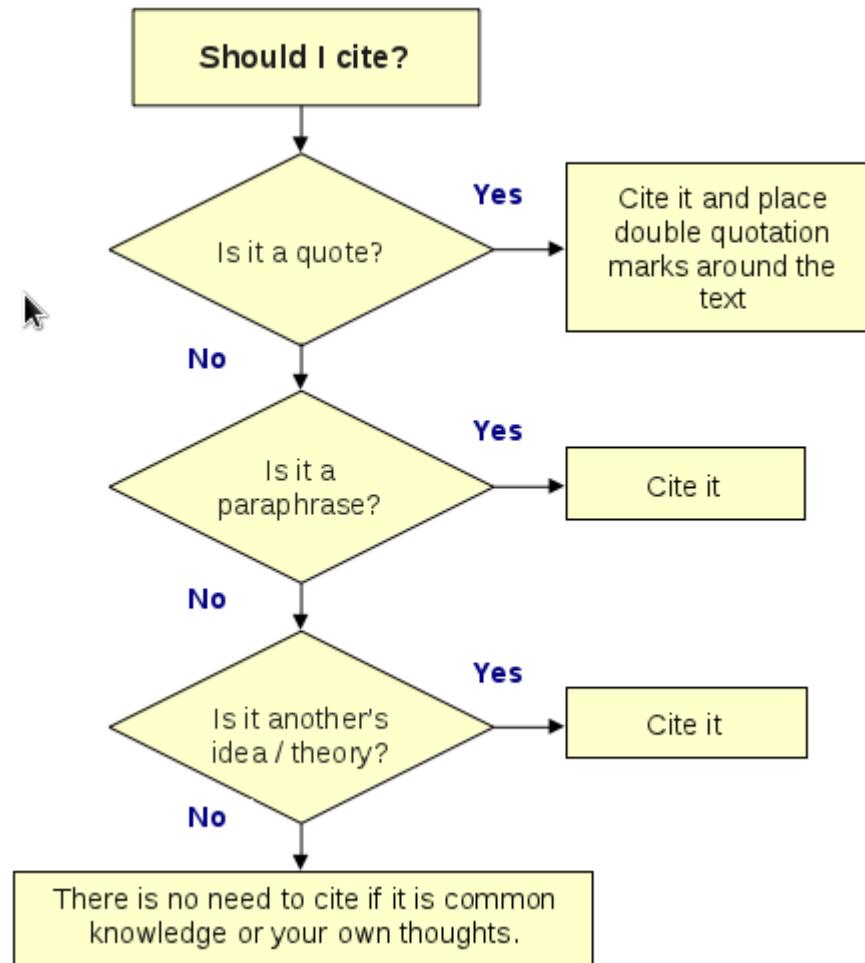
# Common knowledge

## Example

If you were writing about the effect of transport on the environment, you could mention that ***emissions from cars are known to have a detrimental effect on the environment*** without providing a reference because this information is well known in the public domain.

If you then went on to state ***the exact percentage of carbon dioxide produced from car emissions*** then you would need to provide a reference because this is a detail which is not commonly known to people.

# When to reference



# Exercise 2

## When to cite

1. Write about your own opinions on a topic
2. Discuss the ideas or research of another person in your own words
3. Present the results of your own experiment or survey
4. Mention a fact which is commonly known
5. Write about something you know you've read about somewhere but you can't remember where
6. Include a table of data or a diagram from another source
7. Paraphrase the ideas from two separate sources linking them together using your own words
8. Copy text from another source

# Exercise 2

## When to cite

Reference required	No reference required
Copy text from another source	Mention a fact which is commonly known
Include a table of data or a diagram from another source	Write about your own opinions on a topic
Discuss the ideas or research of another person in your own words	Present the results of your own experiment or survey
Paraphrase the ideas from two separate sources linking them together using your own words	
Write about something you know you've read about somewhere but you can't remember where	

# Where to look more

- λ University guide to plagiarism:  
<http://www.hw.ac.uk/registry/resources/plagiarismguide.pdf>
- λ Avoiding plagiarism:  
<https://ilrb.cf.ac.uk/plagiarism/tutorial/index.html>
- λ F21RP1 Research Methods - Attribution and Collaboration lecture in Vision, Greg Michaelson



Thank you!

Question?