

## Avoiding Plagiarism

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## Groups!



## What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is the “act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own.” (Excerpted from Black’s Law Dictionary, West Group, 1999, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., p. 1170)

- Retrieved from Western Libraries Plagiarism page

## TRUE OR FALSE?

If you borrow someone else’s idea for your paper, you don’t have to cite it.



## TRUE OR FALSE?

If you summarize a block of text from a source in your paper, citing the source at the end of your paper is good enough.



## Western’s Policy

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations.

Plagiarism (the unacknowledged use of another person’s work) is one of the most serious academic offences, since it involves fraud and misrepresentation. In plagiarizing, one is in effect claiming another person’s words or ideas or data as one’s own work, and thus misrepresenting material subject to academic evaluation.

-retrieved from the UWO English Undergraduate website

<https://www.lib.uwo.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>

### Consequences at Western

It is necessary, therefore, that plagiarism carry appropriate penalties. These are within the discretion of the Chair of Undergraduate Studies, but may include failure of a course or a grade of zero on an assignment, without the privilege of resubmitting it.

Students found guilty of a second serious offence will be expelled from Department of English courses. Further action may be taken by the Dean's Office.

-retrieved from the UWO English Undergraduate website

Students found to have submitted the work of another person as their own work will automatically fail the course. Any students who know their own work has been used improperly have a responsibility to inform the Department of that fact; otherwise they will be considered collaborators.

- Academic Calendar  
<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/>
- Turnitin.com

### TRUE OR FALSE?

Song lyrics don't need a citation.



### TRUE OR FALSE?

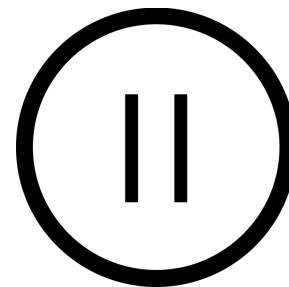
If you quote your roommate from a conversation the two of you had, you don't need to cite them or use quotation marks.



### Identifying Plagiarism

- Words or ideas presented in a magazine, book, newspaper, song, TV program, movie, Web page, computer program, letter, advertisement, or any other medium
- Information gained through interviewing or conversing with another person
- When you copy the exact words of a unique phrase
- When you reprint any diagrams, illustrations, charts, pictures, or other visual materials
- When you reuse or repost any electronically-available media, including images, audio, video, or other media
  - Retrieved from Owl Purdue

### Break



## Activity



## Citations

Why do we cite?

## TRUE OR FALSE?

The date of William Shakespeare's death is common knowledge, you don't have to cite the source in which you found it.



## Common Knowledge

- General common knowledge
- Field-specific common knowledge
- How do you know its common knowledge?

## TRUE OR FALSE?

Everything on the internet is common knowledge, so copying and pasting from the internet can be done without citing anything.



## What can you do?

- Cite sources!
- Take effective notes
- When in doubt, cite the source!

## Creative Commons

[Creative Commons](#)

## Citation management software

- Zotero
- EndNote
- Citation Machine
- Others?

## Style guides

- MLA
- APA
- [OWL Purdue](#) is your new best friend!

## Ask a Librarian

- Or your TA
- Or your Professor



## Plagiarism Game

- <http://www.lycoming.edu/library/instruction/tutorials/plagiarismGame.aspx>