PLAGIARISM AVOIDANCE
DEFINITION

• Plagiarism is defined as using other peoples’ ideas, words, data etc., and trying to pass them off as your own

• Plagiarism is stealing - it's the theft of someone else's ideas or work.
Reasons for Plagiarism

- Misunderstanding
- Misuse
- Misconduct
Misunderstanding of rules & last minute panic are most frequently cited by students.

Extrinsic motivations are common:

e.g. pressure to succeed, pre-requisite courses, “I don’t need to learn this”; “I need a good degree”
Misuse

International students are more likely to be punished. (Do they plagiarise more or are they just found out more often?) If so:

• Because they fear failure, lack writing skills, and are under time pressure?
• They know about the concept of plagiarism but have little idea how to comply?
• Paraphrasing and trying new strategies is risky & they revert to ‘tried and tested’ strategies
Bloom’s Taxonomy

- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Application
- Analysis
- Synthesis
- Evaluation

More susceptible to plagiarism
William Shakespeare: The Early Years

The common belief that England’s greatest playwright, William Shakespeare, was born on St George’s Day, 21\textsuperscript{st} April, 1564, is perhaps too much of a coincidence to be true. As Groom \textit{et al.} point out though, there is reliable evidence that a boy named William, son of John Shakespeare, glove-maker, and Mary Arden, his Catholic wife of 7 years, was baptized on 26\textsuperscript{th} April of that year at Holy Trinity Parish church, Stratford-upon-Avon.
William Shakespeare: The Early Years (continued)

Truerod (cited in Dickson, 2005) speculates that the young boy would’ve attended King’s New School, but Amanda Mibillard believes he would’ve begun his education around the age of six or seven at the Stratford Grammar school. Even less is known about Shakespeare’s early adulthood, though both Millibard (no date) and “Rough Guide to Shakespeare” (2005) think that he may have worked as a lawyer’s clerk, a schoolmaster, or even a butcher.


1. Plagiarism means copying someone’s work without acknowledging the true source.  
True

2. You can fail your assignment or even be expelled from College if you are found guilty of Plagiarism.  
True

3. To correctly reference your work, include an “author-date” citation in your essay and a Reference List at the end.  
True

4. A “Bibliography” is the same thing as a Reference List  
True
Avoid plagiarizing, you must give credit whenever you use:

another person's idea, opinion, or theory, any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings--any pieces of information--that are not common knowledge, quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words; or a paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.
STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

• Put in quotations everything that comes directly from the text--especially when taking notes.

• Paraphrase, but be sure you are not just rearranging or replacing a few words. Instead, read over what you want to paraphrase carefully; cover up the text with your hand, or close the text so you can't see any of it (and so aren't tempted to use the text as a "guide"). Write out the idea in your own words without peeking.

• Check your paraphrase against the original text to be sure you have not accidentally used the same phrases or words, and that the information is accurate.
AVOID PLAGIARISM

• Never, and we mean NEVER copy and paste from sources into your own work - even with the intention of removing them later.
• Make notes in your own words (this will help you understand what you read too).
• Make a careful note of exactly where you found your information.
• If in any doubt, cite and reference your sources, or check with your tutor or a librarian.
EXAMPLES OF PLAGIARISM AND OF APPROPRIATE USE OF OTHERS' WORDS AND IDEAS

• Here's the ORIGINAL text, from page 1 of *Lizzie Borden: A Case Book of Family and Crime in the 1890's* by Joyce Williams, et al.:

The rise of industry, the growth of cities, and the expansion of the population were the three great developments of late nineteenth century American history. As new, larger, steam-powered factories became a feature of the American landscape in the East, they transformed farm hands into industrial laborers, and provided jobs for a rising tide of immigrants. With industry came urbanization--the growth of large cities (like Fall River, Massachusetts, where the Bordens lived) which became the centers of production as well as of commerce and trade.
• Here's an UNACCEPTABLE paraphrase of this passage that is plagiarism:

– The increase of industry, the growth of cities, and the explosion of the population were three large factors of nineteenth century America. As stem-driven companies became more visible in the eastern part of the country, they changed farm hands into factory workers and provided jobs for the large wave of immigrants. With industry came the growth of large cities like Fall River where the Bordens lived which turned into centers of commerce and trade as well as production.

– The preceding passage is considered plagiarism for two reasons:
  • The writer only changed around a few words and phrases, or changed the order of the original's sentences;
  • the writer failed to cite a source for any of the ideas or facts.
– If you do either or both of these things, you are plagiarizing.
– [NOTE: This paragraph is also problematic because it changes the sense of several sentences (for example, "steam-driven companies" in sentence two misses the original's emphasis on factories).]
• Here's an ACCEPTABLE paraphrase:

  – Fall river, where the Borden fancily lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. Steam-powered production had shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, and as immigrants arrived in the US, they found work in these new factories. As a result, populations grew, and large urban areas arose. Fall River was one of these manufacturing and commercial centers (Williams 1).

  – This is acceptable paraphrasing because:
    • the writer accurately relays the information in the original;
    • uses her own words; and
    • lets her reader know the source of her information.
• Here's an example of quotation and paraphrase used together, which is also ACCEPTABLE:

  – Fall River, where the Borden family lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. As steam-powered production shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, the demand for workers "changed farm hands into factory workers": and created jobs for immigrants. In turn, growing populations increased the size of urban areas. Fall River was one of these manufacturing hubs that were also "centers of commerce and trade" (Williams 1).

  – This is an acceptable paraphrase because the writer:
    • records the information in the original passage accurately;
    • gives credit for the ideas in this passage; and
    • indicates which part is taken directly from her source by putting the passage in quotation marks and citing the page number.
Thank you