PLAGIARISM

How to avoid it!
Outline of Presentation

- What is plagiarism?
- Examples of plagiarism
- Why students plagiarise
- Common student excuses
- Preventing plagiarism
- Plagiarism quiz

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What is Plagiarism?

- **Plagiarism** comes from the Latin word ‘plagiarius’ which means kidnapper!

- It means taking and using another person’s work or ideas as your own and not acknowledging where the information came from.

- Whether deliberate or accidental, it is a form of cheating (stealing).

- Students who **plagiarise** will have to re-submit their assessments and may fail the unit.
Examples of Plagiarism

- Using another person’s ideas or opinions without acknowledging where the information came from.
- Using statistics, maps and images without acknowledging where they came from.
- Copying and pasting information from the internet without correct acknowledgement.
- Not including the sources of information used in an assignment in a Reference list.
Why Students Plagiarise

- Lack of research skills
- Inadequate note taking
- Pressure
- Accidental plagiarism
- Poor time management skills
- Lack of understanding of what’s required
Common Student Excuses

‘I ran out of time and got desperate at the last moment’

‘I couldn’t keep up with the workload in my course’

‘I couldn’t do it on my own! I didn’t know enough’

‘I can’t express myself as well as the authors can’

‘My English is not good enough so I used the author’s words’

‘I didn’t know how to reference correctly’

(University of Melbourne, 2014)
Preventing Plagiarism

- **Plagiarism** can be avoided by acknowledging the sources of information used in written work.
- When researching, collect the details (e.g. author, year, title, publisher) of each text you read.
- In-text citations and a Reference list are required using the APA style of referencing.
- If you use graphs, tables or images you must identify where they came from.

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(Australia’s Health, 2012)
Remember!

✓ You **must** provide a reference whenever you use another person’s work or ideas.

✓ You **do not** need to provide a reference for information that is considered general or common knowledge or your own ideas.

✓ Learn how to **paraphrase, summarise** and **quote** from any information sources that you use.
Try the Plagiarism Quiz

This online quiz is from the University of Cardiff:

Is it Plagiarism Quiz

https://xerte.cardiff.ac.uk/play_8694

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Further Information

Watch the You Tube Clip:

Avoid Plagiarism
https://youtu.be/2q0NlWcTq1Y

Refer to the online APA guide @
References


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