

## Plagiarism

**WebQuest Description:** In this webquest, you will complete a series of activities relating to plagiarism. First is a plagiarism knowledge rating scale containing vocabulary words that you will complete in class with your instructor and classmates. Next you will do an online tutorial explaining the proper way to paraphrase and cite sources. Finally there will be an opportunity for you to demonstrate your knowledge by citing works for two mock assignments. Additional information and activities relating to Internet plagiarism are also available in this webquest. During this webquest, you will be working on the ABLE Writing Standard dealing with plagiarism

**Grade Level:** College / Adult

**Curriculum:** English / Language Arts

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## Introduction

Whether in class or at work, plagiarism is an important concept to understand when completing assignments. When students or workers quote other authors or use someone else's ideas in their reports, they must give credit to the original creator. This is done in the form of a citation, a method that shows where readers can find the original creator's work. If students or workers fail to give credit where credit is due, then they are committing plagiarism, or the stealing of someone's work. Plagiarism is a major offense, and punishments are severe. In educational institutions, such as universities and community colleges, committing plagiarism can lead to failing a paper, failing a class, or being academically dismissed. Punishments are even more severe in the workforce where plagiarism can lead to firing or criminal charges. The purpose of this webquest is to help you understand what exactly plagiarism is and how to avoid it by citing ideas or quotes that are not originally yours. Citing resources correctly is a valuable skill in college coursework and in some professions. Task 1: Plagiarism Knowledge Rating Scale Before you begin the activities listed in this webquest, work in small groups to complete the Plagiarism Knowledge Rating Scale handout. Print this handout and complete all columns except the last, share your definitions with others in your group and your teacher. Keep this handout as you will return to it at the end of the webquest. You may use the websites below to fill out the definition column of the chart: William F. Maag Jr. Library Youngstown State University Plagiarism - Learning Center Plagiarism - FAQs

## Tasks

Works Cited is sometimes referred to as References. The terms mean the same thing. Each is an alphabetical list of works cited, or works to which you have made reference. Works Cited is generally used when citing sources using MLA style, while the title References is used when citing sources using APA style. Works Cited and Bibliography are not the same. In Works Cited you only list items you have actually cited. In a Bibliography (literally, "description of books") you list all of the material you have consulted in preparing your essay whether or not you have actually cited the work. Entries in Works Cited, References, or Bibliography are listed in alphabetical order by last names of authors and should be the last page of your paper. Task 4: Shakespeare Works Cited Page Suppose you have been assigned a research paper on Shakespeare. You will create a Works Cited page in MLA style with three sources: a book, a journal article, and a website. Using the keywords "Shakespeare biography," search for resources on the Kent State Libraries catalog, Google Scholar and a website on Shakespeare. Create the page and share with your group and teacher. Kent State Library—Book Search Results Google Scholar—Journal Article Results Shakespeare and the Internet—Other Sites Use this site to help you cite your sources: Long Island University—MLA Citation Style Task 5: Favorite Musician or Band Works Cited Page Using an online search engine, such as Google, search for Internet sources on your favorite musician or band. Create a Works Cited page for a research paper by using the following e-How site titled How to Cite an Internet Source. Create the page and share with your group and teacher. If working in small groups, you may choose to trade your Works Cited pages and check each others entries using the online citation tool Citation Machine or simply check your own work with this tool.

## Process

Plagiarizing has become more of a problem in recent years with the use of the Internet. Internet users can now copy whole passages from blogs, social networking sites, or emails to use in their papers. School and work administrators, however, can easily detect plagiarism by using the Google search engine or free online plagiarism checkers. The following passages are taken from Beginnings XIV submissions (Beginnings is an annual publication of the Ohio Literacy Resource Center; it is a collection of outstanding student writing from Adult Basic and Literacy Education programs). Every year, of the hundreds of entries submitted, the Ohio Literacy Resource Center staff find an average of five to seven plagiarized pieces. When a Beginnings submission has been plagiarized, not only is the submission rejected, but a letter about the plagiarism is sent to the student, the student's instructor, and the program administrator. Task 6: Plagiarism Checker Using the following plagiarism detecting websites, discover which submissions are plagiarized and where the plagiarized material is located on the Internet. Share what

you find with your group. Google Article Checker Grammarly The Plagiarism Checker 1. Dig a grave Dig it deep Place a statue at my feet I died for love2. A baby girl was born, too early in the world. From her mother's womb she was hurled. Six weeks premature, and small as she could be, that baby girl was me. At three days old my heart rate spikes. This is not what the Doctor likes. "She's sick," he says, "she's very ill." There was a bleed in my brain that meant to kill. At best I'd be a shell, of what a girl is meant to be. At worst long life was not meant for me. But God had other plans, as you can surely see, for here I sit writing a poem about me. At ten days old they operated. "A miracle took place," they stated. Many years have passed and I'm still alive. God is good, he makes me thrive. Because of him, I am alive!3. So I could call to hear your voice again thought of you today, but that is nothing new I thought about you yesterday and days before that, too Your memory is a keepsake from which I'll never part I think of you in silence and often speak your name All I have are memories and a picture frame God has you.4. Do you feel free when you awake To a nice cool breeze upon Your face as the sun comes up? As you look to the sky so blue And birds soaring in air. When flowers open their petals Ever so softly and the wind blows Through the trees and the sweet Smell of tulips and fresh cut grass Do you feel free? As rain drops softly to the ground And dries to the sun's warm and Soft rays. As you listen to the birds singing In the treetops and caring for Their young or butterflies fluttering Through the air and fro. Do you feel free? Do you feel free? Ahh yes. Feel free my friend Feel free.

## Evaluation

During a first year experience class at Kent State Stark, students are asked to review the Plagiarism Workshop website. On the website you will find a Plagiarism PowerPoint presentation with further information on how to avoid plagiarism, the steps taken when a student has been caught plagiarizing, and several great examples of students plagiarizing. Look over the PowerPoint to cover any information you haven't already received in this webquest. Task 7: Case Studies Involving Plagiarism Read through each case study and discuss whether the cases were examples of plagiarism with your class. Be ready to explain your thinking. Case #1 George Bono's paper on AIDS Case #2 Rosie Pinetar's essay on The Natural Case #3 Stuart Lavaman's term paper in Geology Case #4 Gilbert Trout's book report on Slaughterhouse-Five Case #5 Lonnie Shakespeare trades papers for a Psychology class Case #6 Jill St. Blonde writes two papers on the same topic

Category and Score					Score
				Total Score	

## Conclusion

After completing this webquest, you should have a better idea of what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. You should be able to cite sources using different styles and to paraphrase properly. When you are assigned research papers in the future, come back to these resources if you are unsure of any of these concepts. To prevent plagiarism, keep detailed notes when researching and be aware of what ideas are yours and what are not. Be sure you know exactly where those sources have come. Keep your research notes and your research paper organized. When in doubt, always cite. Researching for an assignment, writing a paper, and then citing the various sources you have found is a long process that takes a lot of work and time. When you become overwhelmed or lost, ask your instructor, a librarian, or supervisor for help. Check out resources at universities that apply to their plagiarism policies. You can find additional resources for students and faculty at Kent State University's library website. Avoiding Plagiarism Plagiarism Resources Return to the Plagiarism Knowledge Rating Scale and complete the last column. You should now be very familiar with all these terms and be able to avoid plagiarism in your writing.

## Teacher Page

Citations are found directly after your use of other authors' quotes or ideas within your paper. They are also included in your paper's Works Cited page or Bibliography (the complete, alphabetical listing of all of the sources used in your research and found at

