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Cheating

Cheating involves unauthorized use of information, materials, devices, sources, or practices in completing academic activities. Examples of cheating include the following:

- Copying exams or assignments from others or allowing others to copy from your work
- Using crib sheets, notes, books and other materials in exams when not authorized to use them
- Working collaboratively when required to work independently
- Using calculators, PDAs, laptops and other devices when not authorized to use them
- Signaling answers to others or receiving signals from others in completing an exam
- Using approved devices for unauthorized purposes, such as storing answers in a programmable calculator when calculators are allowed in the exam only for performing calculations
- Asking others (friends, siblings, parents) to complete your academic activities
- Obtaining exam questions from another student who had taken the same exam earlier
- Documenting exam questions in a student society or organization for others to obtain and cheat from in the future
- Purchasing answers or papers for assignments from the web and other sources
- Using unauthorized materials or procedures in completing experiments and other activities

Fabrication or Falsification

Fabrication or falsification involves unauthorized creation, alteration, or reporting of information in an academic activity. Examples of fabrication or falsification include the following:

- Artificially creating data when it should be collected from an actual experiment
- Unauthorized altering or falsification of data, documents, images, music, art or other work
- Unauthorized omission of data, information, or results in documents, reports and presentations
- Hiding data, results, or information using inappropriate scales, magnification, and representation in charts, graphs and other forms of representation
- Falsifying information pertaining to the subjects participating in an experiment
- Falsely recruiting subjects for experiments without revealing the purpose of the experiments or receiving institutional approval for involving subjects in the experiment
- Fabricating sources of information
- Unauthorized impersonation of another person to complete an academic activity
- Unauthorized use of another individual's computer login ID and password
- Unapproved deviation from a predetermined experimental procedure

Sabotage

Sabotage involves disrupting or destroying another person's work so that the other person cannot complete an academic activity successfully. Examples of sabotage include the following:

- Destroying another person's work (including documents, design, data, artwork, etc.)
- Not contributing to a collaborative effort adequately when required to do so
- Withholding information when it should be shared with others in a collaborative project
- Revealing confidential data about another person's project or procedures to others
- Disturbing the setup or calibration of equipment arranged by another person
- Colluding with others to falsely accuse others of academic dishonesty
- Installing viruses, spyware, or other damaging software in another person's computer
- Stealing another person's property, such as computers, experimental setups, data, or designs, to prevent that person from completing his or her academic activities
- Destroying books and materials in the library, laboratory, or similar places to prevent other students from completing their work successfully

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a type of cheating that involves the use of another person's ideas or work as one's own, in whole or in part, without acknowledging the author or obtaining his or her permission. Plagiarism is not limited to written text, but also applies to other works, such as ideas, designs, art, music, etc. EMU defines plagiarism as occurring when a person presents as one's own someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source (adapted from the Council of Writing Program Administrators, 2005, <http://www.wpacouncil.org>).

Students can plagiarize in a number of ways, as explained below:

Direct Plagiarism

Definition

Copying another writer's work with no attempt to acknowledge that the material was found in an external source is considered direct plagiarism.

Example Source Text

Normal science, the activity in which most scientists inevitably spend almost all their time, is predicated on the assumption that the scientific community knows what the world is like. Much of the success of the enterprise derives from the community's willingness to defend that assumption, if necessary at considerable cost. Normal science, for example, often suppresses fundamental novelties because they are necessarily subversive of its basic commitments (5).

Kuhn, Thomas. *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

Draft

Normal science, the activity in which most scientists inevitably spend almost all their time, is predicated on the assumption that the scientific community knows what the world is like. Some scientists say that the success of the enterprise comes from the community's willingness to defend that assumption, if necessary at considerable cost. Normal science often suppresses fundamental novelties because they are necessarily subversive of its basic commitments.

Explanation

In instances of direct plagiarism, the writer takes most of his or her draft almost word-for-word from another source. Even though the writer eliminates some sentences from the original, she or he still uses another person's words and ideas and tries to pass them off as his or her own. The writer uses no quotation marks to distinguish his or her own words from those that are from the source, and she or he provides no citations to acknowledge that the material comes from another source.

To avoid this type of plagiarism, you must acknowledge that your ideas and/or words came from a source **and** either enclose the words taken directly from the source in quotation marks or paraphrase the material into your own words. (Note: Paraphrasing is expressing the information from a source with your own words without changing the meaning of the original source.)

Corrected Draft

Thomas Kuhn asserts that scientific research "is predicated on the assumption that the scientific community knows what the world is like" (5). Because this assumption is the foundation of most scientific knowledge, scientists are willing to go to great lengths to defend it, even to the point of suppressing substantial new information that would undermine the basic proposition (Kuhn 5).

Kuhn, Thomas. *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

- **Plagiarism is not limited to written text, but also applies to other works, such as ideas, designs, art, music, etc.**

Direct "Patchwork" Plagiarism

Definition

Direct "patchwork" plagiarism occurs when a writer copies material from several writers and rearranges that material with no attempt to acknowledge the original sources.

Example Source Text

Colonialism had a destabilizing effect on what had been a number of ethnic groups that is still being felt in African politics. Before European influence, national borders were not much of a concern, with Africans generally following the practice of other areas of the world, such as the Arabian peninsula, where a group's territory was congruent with its military or trade influence.

"Africa : Politics." *Wikipedia*. 31 Aug. 2005. Retrieved Aug. 31 2005, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Africa#Politics>

In the 1870s European nations were bickering over themselves about the spoils of Africa. In order to prevent further conflict between them, they convened at the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 to lay down the rules on how they would partition up Africa between themselves. Between 1870 and World War I alone, the European scramble for Africa resulted in the adding of around one-fifth of the land area of the globe to its overseas colonial possessions.

Shah, Anup. "Introduction." *Conflicts in Africa*. 27 Feb. 2005. Retrieved Aug. 31 2005, from <http://www.globalissues.org/Geopolitics/Africa/Intro.asp>

Draft

Colonialism had a destabilizing effect on what had been a number of ethnic groups that is still being felt in African politics. In the 1870s European nations were bickering over themselves about the spoils of Africa. Between 1870 and World War I alone, the European scramble for Africa resulted in the adding of around one-fifth of the land area of the globe to its overseas colonial possessions. Prior to European influence, national borders were not much of a concern, with Africans generally following the practice of other areas of the world, such as the Arabian peninsula, where a group's territory was congruent with its military or trade influence.

Explanation

Like direct plagiarism, patchwork plagiarism occurs when a writer makes use of material taken almost word-for-word from several sources with no attempt to acknowledge the original sources. What sets patchwork plagiarism apart from direct plagiarism, however, is that, in patchwork plagiarism, the writer creatively weaves the source materials

together with his or her own words into a paragraph that is a mixture of plagiarized and original material.

To eliminate this type of plagiarism, you should acknowledge each source that your ideas came from **and** either enclose the words taken directly from each source in quotation marks or paraphrase the material into your own words.

Corrected Draft

The echoes of colonialism throughout the world can still be felt in today's global political sphere. In the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, several European nations were in conflict over rights to African land and resources, and eventually "around one-fifth of the land area of the globe" (*Global Issues* "Conflicts in Africa") was colonized by European nations. One major repercussion of colonialism is in the existence of African borders, which were "not much of a concern" (*Wikipedia* "Africa: Politics") before Europeans colonized the globe, but are now the cause of much conflict throughout the world.

Insufficient Citation of Partial Quotation

Definition

Insufficient citation of partial quotations occurs when writers incorporate into their own texts words or phrases that are stylistically or intellectually marked as another writer's within a larger paraphrase of the source, without using either quotation marks or proper citation.

Example Source Text

The force that the electromagnetic field exerts on electrically charged particles, called the electromagnetic force, is one of the four fundamental forces. The other fundamental forces are the strong nuclear force (which holds atomic nuclei together), the weak nuclear force (which causes certain forms of radioactive decay), and the gravitational force. All other forces are ultimately derived from these fundamental forces. However, it turns out that the electromagnetic force is the one responsible for practically all the phenomena one encounters in daily life, with the exception of gravity.

"Electromagnetism." *Wikipedia*. 21 Aug. 2005. Retrieved Aug. 31 2005, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electromagnetism>

Draft

Electromagnetism is defined as the "force that the electromagnetic field exerts on electrically charged particles," and it is "one of the four fundamental forces." Electromagnetism and the other three fundamental forces (strong and weak nuclear forces and gravitational force) are the foundations for every other fundamental force, but electromagnetism itself dictates almost every phenomenon we witness daily.

Explanation

In this example, the writer has attempted to acknowledge that she or he took words from a source document by putting quotation marks around particular words within his or her own text. However, she or he has failed to identify the source with adequate parenthetical or endnote or footnote citation. Despite the writer's partial citation, she or he is guilty of plagiarism.

To eliminate this type of plagiarism, you should include quotation marks around the words taken directly from your source **and** include a parenthetical or endnote or footnote citation to identify the author, location, and/or date of the original material's publication. Check the most recent edition of your style guide for documentation guidelines.

Corrected draft

Electromagnetism is defined as the "force that the electromagnetic field exerts on electrically charged particles," and it is "one of the four fundamental forces" (*Wikipedia* "Electromagnetism"). Electromagnetism and the other three fundamental forces (strong and weak nuclear forces and gravitational force) are the foundations for every other fundamental force, but electromagnetism itself dictates almost every phenomenon we witness daily (*Wikipedia*, "Electromagnetism").

Paraphrasing (or Summarizing) without Citing

Definition

Paraphrasing or summarizing without citation occurs when a writer changes the words of an original source, but uses the ideas in it without acknowledging that those ideas are not his or her original thoughts, even if the writer adds his or her own "spin" to the original.

Example Source Text

New classical economics. The original theoretical impetus was the charge that Keynesian economics lacks microeconomic foundations -- i.e. its assertions are not founded in basic economic theory. This school emerged during the 1970s. This school asserts that it does not make sense to claim that the economy at any time might be "out-of-equilibrium". Fluctuations in aggregate variables follow from the individuals in the society continuously re-optimizing as new information on the state of the world is revealed.

"Macroeconomics." *Wikipedia*. 18 Aug. 2005. 31 Aug. 2005
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macroeconomics>.

Draft

Scholars in the school of new classical economics, which emerged in the 1970s, focus on the belief that the school of Keynesian economics is misguided. New classical scholars assert that the economy is never unbalanced, as Keynesian scholars believe, but instead that changes in an economy result from people's changing their spending habits as they interpret the news about the world.

Explanation

This writer has adequately paraphrased the source material, but the draft is based almost completely on the ideas she or he discovered in the source. He or she has not acknowledged that the notion of the difference between new classical economics and Keynesian economics was derived wholly from another author's ideas, and this constitutes plagiarism.

To eliminate this type of plagiarism, you should provide parenthetical or endnote or footnote citations for the paragraph(s) that include material derived from a source **or** incorporate the original source into the body of your draft to acknowledge that the ideas the draft is based upon were originally another person's, along with a parenthetical or endnote of footnote citation.

Corrected draft

According to the article "Macroeconomics" on *Wikipedia.org*, scholars in the school of new classical economics, which emerged in the 1970s, focus on the belief that the school of Keynesian economics is misguided. New classical scholars assert that the economy is never unbalanced, as Keynesian scholars believe, but instead that changes in an economy result from people's changing their spending habits as they interpret the news about the world.

Insufficient Citation of Paraphrase (or Summary)

Definition

Changing the words of an original source and using the author's ideas with attempts to acknowledge the material's source(s), but without correct or adequate citation, is considered insufficient citation of paraphrase.

Example Source Text

In classical music of the last 35 years, the term minimalism is sometimes applied to music which displays some or all of the following features: repetition (often of short musical phrases, with minimal variations over long periods of time) or stasis (often in the form of drones and long tones); emphasis on consonant harmony; a steady pulse. It is almost inseparable, currently, from electronic music and composition.

Apart from Philip Glass, Steve Reich is arguably the most famous minimalist composer, with John Coolidge Adams also being notable. Following the classical compositions of Philip Glass, the Chicago House scene in the late 1990s saw a major revolution with the advent of the ghattotech single "Time for the Perculator" by Cajmere, which was decidedly more minimalistic in its outlook.

"Minimalist Music." *Wikipedia*. 22 Aug. 2005. 31 Aug. 2005
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minimalist_music

Draft

According to an article on Wikipedia.org, musical minimalism has evolved since the 1970s to incorporate repetition, long notes, and a consistent beat into what people now commonly call electronic music. Since the late 1990s, it has revolutionized even electronic music by bringing about "ghettotech" in the music culture known as "Chicago House." Philip Glass, Steve Reich, and John Coolidge Adams are musical minimalism's minimalism's most well-known composers.

Explanation

The writer has adequately paraphrased the source material, but has based his or her draft almost completely on the ideas he or she discovered in the source. She or he has acknowledged that the ideas about musical minimalism were derived wholly from another author's ideas, but has failed to cite his or her source adequately.

To eliminate this type of plagiarism, you should provide a parenthetical or endnote or footnote citation for the paragraph(s) that include material derived from a source **or** incorporate the original source into the body of your draft to acknowledge that the ideas were originally another person's. You should check the most recent edition of your style guide for documentation guidelines.

Corrected draft

According to an article on Wikipedia.org, musical minimalism has evolved since the 1970s to incorporate repetition, long notes, and a consistent beat into what people now commonly call electronic music. Since the late 1990s, it has revolutionized even electronic music by bringing about "ghettotech" in the music culture known as "Chicago House" (*Wikipedia* "Minimalist Music"). Philip Glass, Steve Reich, and John Coolidge Adams are musical minimalism's most well-known composers.

Plagiarism of Graphs, Charts, Figures, or Images

Definition

Using graphs, charts, figures, or images from a source without acknowledging that another person developed them is considered plagiarism.

Example Source

Source: Scania. *Annual Report 2002*. 2003. 31 Aug. 2005.

http://www.annualreport.scania.com/downloads/scania_annual_report_2002.pdf

Draft

Scania is a Scandinavian company that manufactures parts for large semi-trucks. The company's profits have been rising steadily throughout the years, as can be seen in the table below.



Explanation

This writer has lifted a table from a secondary source and used it directly in his/her draft. By doing this, the writer has used another person's ideas, calculations, and words without acknowledgement. This lack of citation constitutes plagiarism.

To eliminate this type of plagiarism, you should provide a citation for any tables, graphics, figures, or images you acquire from secondary sources. You may also consider translating the information from tables into your own words. Remember, even if you use only information from a graph, chart, figure, or image in your paper, you still need to acknowledge your source by providing proper citation.

Misinterpretation of Material as "Common Knowledge"

Definition

Failing to provide citation for material because you believe it is "common knowledge" (when it is not) is considered plagiarism.

Example Source Text

None.

Draft

Linguistics asserts the existence of a critical period, which usually comes at puberty and marks the end of the fluid language acquisition of childhood. The critical period is the point at which many of the unused connections in the brain begin to die to allow the body to reallocate physical resources away from intellectual development to reproductive development. If a speaker begins to learn a language after his or her critical period has passed, he or she will always speak with an accent.

Explanation

This writer has made an assertion without finding a source for it because she or he believed the assertion to be widely enough known to be considered "common knowledge." However, most general readers would not know enough about the topic for the information to be considered "common knowledge." Thus, the writer should have found a source to support his or her claims. If a writer is ever in doubt about whether information can be considered "common knowledge," she or he should always err on the side of caution and provide documentation.

Corrected draft

Linguistics asserts the existence of a critical period, which usually ends at or before puberty and marks the fluid language acquisition of childhood. The critical period's end is the point at which many of the unused connections in the brain begin to die to allow the body to reallocate physical resources away from cognitive development towards reproductive development. If a speaker begins to learn a language after his or her critical period has passed, he or she will always speak with an accent (Abrahamsson 751-75).

Abrahamsson, N. "Second Language Acquisition and the Critical Period Hypothesis." *Applied Linguistics* 20.4 (1999): 751-75.

Self-Plagiarism

Submitting a substantial portion of one's own previous work or ideas to meet requirements in different contexts, when it is prohibited. May be used if permission is granted from professor of previous assignment and professor of current assignment. Must be cited in current assignment.

Ex. In-text citation: Student last name (year) asserted that "our fathers were the breadwinners, leaving home every day to make money, enough to buy our daily bread at the store" (Unpublished paper, used with permission, p. 3).

Ex. References page: Student last name, first initial. (year). Unpublished paper. Name of institution.