

Writing With Style

APA Style Made Easy

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Chapter 1 – Introduction

Plagiarism

DON'T

Don't use someone else's words

- Unless
 - you give the author credit
 - use quotation marks
 - for APA style, use page reference for direct quotations

Don't cut and paste from the Internet

- Cite the source just as if it were a journal or a book.
- Use quotation marks if you are not paraphrasing.
- If there is no author or date
 - It is still plagiarism to copy it without citation.
 - It is probably not a good source for student or professional writing.

Don't use patchwork plagiarism

- Using someone's sentence with a few synonym replacements is still plagiarism.
- The thesaurus is not a good place to find synonyms anyways.

Don't recycle your own work

- Self-plagiarism is unacceptable for journals.
 - Authors may write on the same subject more than once, but may not use the same sentences over and over again.
- Self-plagiarism is unacceptable for class.
 - Students should write original papers for each class unless the professor is in on the plan.

DO

Think about whether you are stating something generally agreed upon

- If so, no need to cite.
 - Children learn to walk before they run.
- If in doubt, cite.
 - Over 30 different types of crawling have been identified (Smith, 2001).
- If you're pretty sure but don't have a source, hedge.
 - It is likely that some types of crawling are more common than others.

Try to find out if a term is an accepted technical term

- Check the Internet.
 - *Top-down processing* and *self-handicapping* are terms that are defined on many sites. OK to use without attribution.
 - *Flow* as a psychological term seems to require reference to Csikszentmihalyi's work.
- When in doubt, credit your source.

Commit to paraphrasing

1. Reread until you can confidently talk about the material with your friends and relatives.
2. Write about it without looking at it.
3. Check back against the original to make sure you made no mistakes.
4. Cite the source.

Why you are avoiding plagiarism

- Satisfaction
- Writing an original paper
- Explaining something coherently
- A job well done and done with integrity