

Plagiarism & Copyright ~ Citing Sources

Whilst the internet is a useful source of information, students need to understand about both plagiarism and copyright issues.

- An understanding of Plagiarism should be included in the start of year work for all students when covering the practical skills of searching for and downloading information and/or graphics from the internet.
- Copyright is covered as a major topic in the 3rd Form ICT scheme of work, but should also be covered in the start of year work on searching the internet.
- All students should be reminded about the potential problems they can get themselves into by presenting coursework for exam subjects that they have copied and presented as their own work.

Plagiarism

The wrongful appropriation, close imitation, or purloining and publication, of another author's language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions, and the representation of them as one's own original work.

Oxford English Dictionary

When we use information from other people's work we need to acknowledge the source. The reasons for acknowledging the source is important for a number of reasons including:

- Recognising that the work has been done by someone else.
- Demonstrating the level of research and background reading that has been done in preparing the essay or work.
- Providing the student and teacher with a means of checking, and providing links to, further information.

Students need to be introduced to the concept of citing references as soon as they are downloading from the internet. The level and style of citing references should be appropriate to the students and the task.

- Simple use of an image could use the URL – eg www.bbc.co.uk
- Text use could vary from a full citation – see guidance below – or again a URL as appropriate to the task.

NB Google is a search engine – www.google.co.uk is never the source unless the image downloaded is the Google logo or similar.

Copyright

Copyright is a set of exclusive rights granted to the author or creator of an original work, including the right to copy, distribute and adapt the work. Exceptions and limitations to these rights strive to balance the public interest in the wide distribution of the material produced and to encourage creativity. Exceptions include fair dealing and fair use, and such use does not require the permission of the copyright owner.

Under copyright law the person who created the original work has the right to benefit financially or otherwise from their work. If they were employed to create the work then their employer would have these rights.

Exceptions

The Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 does allow for fair dealing limited to the following purposes:

- Research and Private Study – both must be non-commercial
- Criticism and Review
- News Reporting

Although not actually defined as a fair dealing, incidental inclusion of a copyrighted work in an artistic work, sound recording, film, broadcast or cable programme doesn't infringe copyright.

Citing References - Guidelines

The following guidelines on Citing References are taken from the University of Reading Library information pages:

<http://www.rdg.ac.uk/library/finding-info/guides/lib-citing-references.asp>

Academic Papers or Books

You should include the following information in your bibliography, the exact style will vary according to the citation system you are using:

1. Author(s) of the paper/chapter, surname(s) and initials
2. Year of publication, in brackets
3. Title of the paper or chapter
4. Title of the book, underlined or in italics, prefaced with the word "In":
5. Editor(s) of the book, in brackets
6. Volume number, part number, where applicable
7. Place of publication
8. Name of publisher

Example

Shriver, D.F. and Atkins, P.W. (1999). *Inorganic chemistry*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Friedman, M. ed. (1975). *Protein nutritional quality of foods and feeds*. New York: Marcel Dekker, 2 vols.

Laurie, H. and Gershuny, J. (2000). *Couples, work and money*. In: *Seven years in the lives of British families*. (R. Berthoud and J. Gershuny, eds.). Bristol: Policy Press.

Journals & Periodicals

You should include the following information in your bibliography, the exact style will vary according to the citation system you are using:

1. Author(s) of the article, surname(s) and initials
2. Year of publication, in brackets
3. Title of the article
4. Full title of the journal in italics or underlined. You may use an accepted abbreviation. Abbreviations can be found in the World list of scientific periodicals - there is a copy in the library - or other accepted sources, but the full title is usually preferred
5. Volume number, in bold
6. Issue number, in brackets. You don't always have to give the issue number, it depends on the way the pages are numbered, but for some journals it is essential. It is certainly important when quoting from *Food Technology* or *The Lancet*
7. Page numbers

Examples

O'Gorman, E. (1999). *Detective fiction and historical narrative*. *Greece and Rome*. 46, 19-26.

London, S.J. and Romieu, I. (2000). *Traffic costs due to outdoor air pollution*. *The Lancet*, 356 (9232), 782-784.

Webpage & Internet Sources

You should include the following information in your bibliography, the exact style will vary according to the citation system you are using:

1. Author(s), surname and initials – if known
2. Title, underlined or in italics
3. URL: <http://> internet address/remote path
4. Date visited, in square brackets

Examples

FarmersWeekly Interactive. URL: <http://www.fwi.co.uk/home/default.aspx> [18 August 2005]

A guide to financial support for higher education students in 2005/06 URL: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/studentssupport/formsandguides/gui_guides.shtml [18 August 2005]