

Helping Students Understand Plagiarism

Understand it yourself:

- What is plagiarism? According to Sebranek, Kemper and Meyers it is "the act of presenting someone else's ideas as your own (256).
- Types of plagiarism (qtd. in Hinchliffe, 1):
 - Buying a paper from a research service or term paper mill.
 - Turning in a paper from a "free term paper" website.
 - Turning in another student's work without that student's knowledge.
 - Turning in a paper a peer has written for the student.
 - Copying a paper from a source text without proper acknowledgment.
 - Copying materials from a source text, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks.
 - Paraphrasing materials from a source text without appropriate documentation.

Teach proper citation, paraphrasing, and quotation techniques.

Talk to students about plagiarism.

Make consequences clear.

What are you looking for?

- Check for unusual formatting or formatting that does not match what you require.
- Notice any jargon or advanced vocabulary or sentence structure.
- Read quotations carefully.
- Review bibliography. Are the citations consistent?

What can you do, if you suspect a problem?

- Go to the WWW. Search the phrase or sentence.
- Browse the following Websites (most of these sites are blocked by MCPS, you may have to browse at home):
 - <http://www.schoolsucks.com>
 - <http://www.homeworksucks.com>
 - <http://www.cyberessays.com>
 - <http://www.freeessay.com> (has links to other research paper sites)
 - <http://www.genuispapers.com>
 - <http://www.papermasters.com>
 - <http://www.paperwriters.com/intro.htm>
 - <http://www.research-assistance.com>
 - <http://www.superior-termpapers.com>
 - <http://www.termpapers-online.com>
 - <http://www.bignerds.com>

Additional Resources for teachers:

Harris, Robert. [Anti-Plagiarism Strategies for Research Papers](#). Version Date: October 19, 2001
<http://www.virtualsalt.com/antiplag.htm>

Hinchliffe, Lisa. ["Cut-and-Paste Plagiarism - Preventing, Detecting and Tracking Online Plagiarism."](#)
janicke@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu, May 1998 -
<http://alexia.lis.uiuc.edu/%7Ejanicke/plagiarism.htm>

Sebranek, Patrick, et al. [Writers Inc.](#)
Willington, MA: Write Source, 2001.