

# Anti-plagiarism course summary

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### Definition

Plagiarize: "to copy (an author) by unduly attributing to oneself passages of their work" (Petit Robert);

Plagiarism:

- "Work made of borrowings; unacknowledged reproduction of an original work or part of it" (CNRTL): <http://www.cnrtl.fr/definition/plagiat>
- "Plagiarism is the appropriation of content (words, images, tables, graphics) without the consent of its author (or rightful owners), without ing sources, for the purpose of presenting it as one's own creation or work."

Leroux, Laurence, Serres, Alexandre. "Le plagiat". In UBL (Université Bretagne Loire). *Form@doct*. Rennes: UBL, n (last updated 20 November 2017, updated 2020). Available at: <http://guides-formadoct.u-bretagne Loire.fr/plagiarism>

Plagiarism can be voluntary or not.

It can take various forms, identified by Pascal Guibert and Christophe Michaut<sup>1</sup>:

*"Stealing or buying materials, such as research articles available in databases, essays, lectures, and internship reports, in order to reproduce them in their entirety, and attributing authorship to oneself. This category also includes documents downloaded from the Internet and reproduced verbatim without modification of the original text.*

– *Hiring a ghostwriter to do the work. The ghostwriter can be chosen from among colleagues or a specialized company.*

– *Drafting a document from one or more originals - text, tables, graphs, images, etc. - omitting quotation marks and/or the source (e.g., copying and pasting passages from the Internet).*

– *Paraphrasing a document or an idea without quoting the references and pretending to be the author (voluntarily or involuntarily). [...]*

*The University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM) adds to this, the translation of texts without mentioning the source and self-plagiarism, which consists of presenting the same document for several exams [...]"*

## Not plagiarizing

### Why quote?

Properly quoting references meets the following requirements:

- Respect copyright and, more broadly, scientific ethics
- "Give credibility to what you say". "Justify what you say: say where you got each fact, idea, or figure you put forward".  
<http://www.univ-angers.fr/fr/vous-etes/etudiant-e/examens/plagiat.html>
- "Allow the reader to verify the accuracy of the information reported; this is a basic principle of scientific communication".<sup>2</sup>
- "Allow the reader who would like to know more, to go and consult the sources you have used" and refer to them if necessary in one's own work <sup>3</sup>
- Make it easier for the reader to understand a text and distinguish your ideas from those of the people mentioned<sup>4</sup>
- "Enable yourself to **find it again** if necessary".  
<http://www.univ-angers.fr/fr/vous-etes/etudiant-e/examens/plagiat.html>
- "**Avoid plagiarism**, whether intentional or unintentional, and the penalties that come with it"

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<sup>1</sup> Pascal Guibert and Christophe Michaut, "Le plagiat étudiant," **Education et sociétés** 2011/2 (No. 28), p. 152. DOI 10.3917/es.028.0149

<sup>2</sup> See also note 3 and 4 Expressions taken from the site [\[https://www.integrite.umontreal.ca/pratiques/sources.html\]](https://www.integrite.umontreal.ca/pratiques/sources.html) consulted in May 2021 which no longer existed in Dec 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Idem

<sup>4</sup> idem

## When to quote?

According to the University of Montreal's "Integrity, Fraud and Plagiarism" website

*"Full reference to a source used in all of the following must be included:*

- *when you report verbatim what someone else has said or written;*
- *when you paraphrase, i.e. put into your own words, what someone else has said or written;*
- *when including photographs, images, data, statistics, graphics in a document".*
- and when translating!

### References must be quoted:

- regardless of the document's status. Published or unpublished; online or printed; oral or written, free of copyright (in the public domain) or under copyright, etc.!
- regardless of its nature (text, photographs, images, graphs, tables, maps, data, ideas, etc.)

**The only acceptable exception is** to quote a publicly known fact or piece of information.

Example: "William Shakespeare was born in England in the 16th century. "

## How to quote?

The goal is to clearly distinguish:

- what one expresses by oneself (original ideas),
- what is taken from a document and paraphrased (reformulated ideas)
- and what is taken from a document (exact quote)

The reference to a piece of writing can take several forms:

- **Quote (short) or excerpt:**
  - write the exact text between quotation marks
  - imperatively quote the original source accurately
- **Translation:**
  - imperatively quote the original source accurately
  - specify whose translation it is
- **Summary or paraphrase:**
  - reword a concept, an author's concept (possibility of using the author's words in quotation marks or in italics)
  - imperatively quote the original source accurately

## Method

There are two main ways to acknowledge the source of a quotation that represent different systems:

- **Notes:**

A (numbered) footnote is inserted in the text, generally at the bottom of the page, specifying the origin of what has been quoted in quotation marks or rephrased (indicating the exact page).

The reference is included in the final bibliography where all documents used in the text are listed.

- **Author-date:**

*"In the text, after the quotation, you must include (author, date) between brackets.*

*The complete and exact reference (including the page) is quoted in the final bibliography "*

**Two variants exist:**

*"\* **label**, where the referencing in the text takes the form of a label of the type [Guid15]"*

*"\* **numerical**, where the referencing in the text takes the form of a number (n) or in square brackets [n]"*

Rational Bibliographic: guide de rédaction des références bibliographiques (Version 1.00) CC BY-SA October2019 - EPFL Library, p.8. Download on <https://infoscience.epfl.ch/record/291407?ln=fr>

**In all cases**, a certain number of elements are mandatory to easily find the reference, among which:

- statement of responsibility: author(s), director, scientific editor etc.
- title: of the article, chapter, contribution **and** title of the journal or book
- edition
- publisher, and city
- year, date of publication (date of consultation for a web page)
- pagination, format etc.

The presentation and mandatory or optional elements vary according to the type of document and its format.

## Recommendations

### Before writing

- Always keep the exact reference of the documents you use in your research (while reading, while attending a conference), to avoid having to return to them afterwards.
- Make sure your references are complete (no missing elements such as date, page).

**Make use of bibliographic management software** that allows you to:

- Write down and retrieve specific references (from books, articles, images, etc.)
- Include footnotes or author-date according to the style chosen in your text
- Include a bibliography according to the chosen style.

For example: Zotero (free); Mendeley; BibTeX (for LaTeX - free); Endnote (not free)

### While writing:

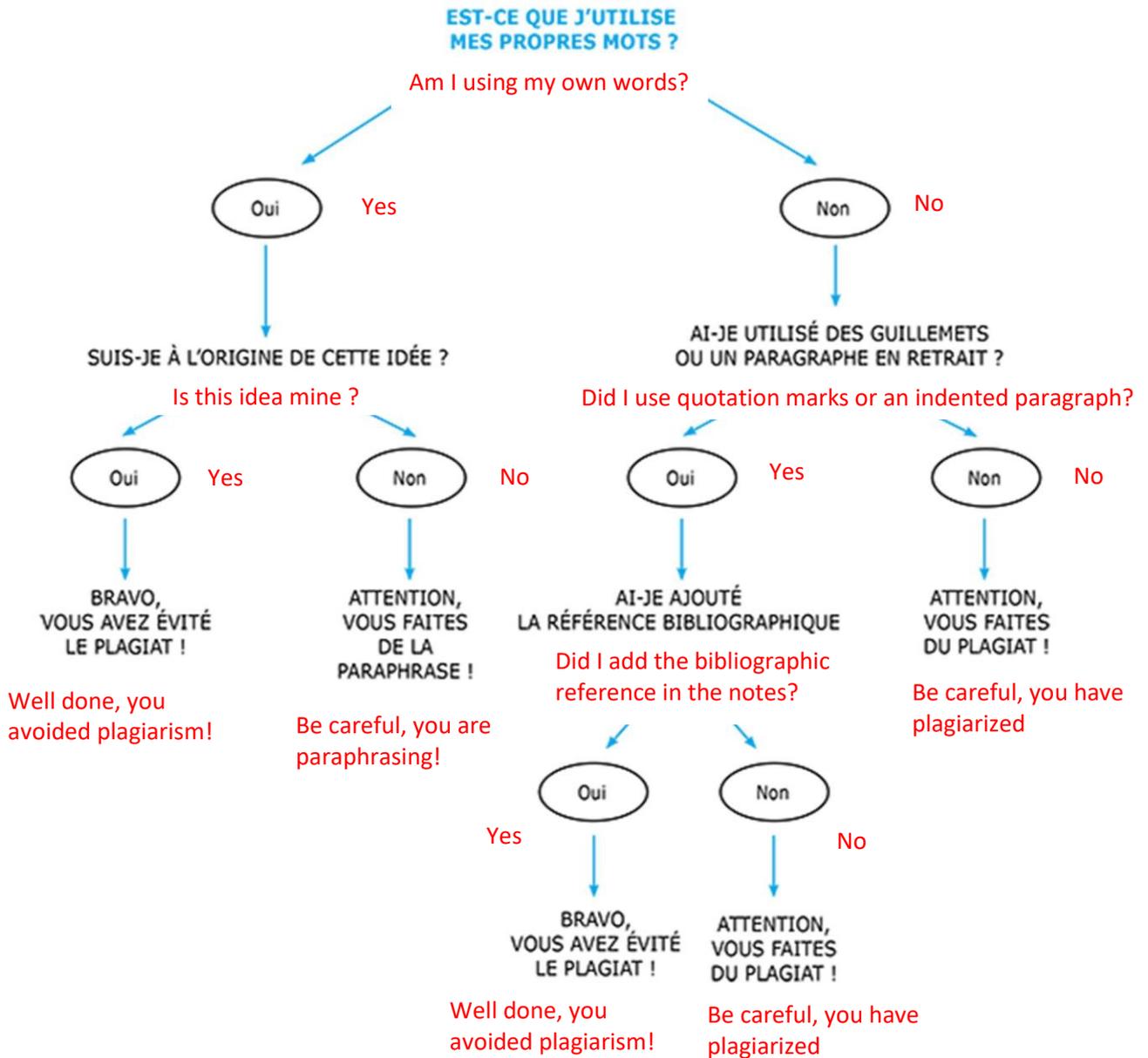
- **Only quote** documents for which you have complete and accurate references (author, title, date, etc.).
- **Start with the original source** of the idea and not its reuse by later authors. *"Only quote material you have seen and used, not material quoted by someone else. If you quote someone quoted by someone else, say so."*

<http://www.univ-angers.fr/fr/vous-etes/etudiant-e/examens/plagiat.html>

- Present your bibliography and references in the main text in a coherent and consistent manner

- Do not quote the same source too often, as this may reveal a lack of research or thoroughness
- Do not overuse quotation or paraphrase, to the detriment of your analysis, of your personal work even if... **"In case of doubt, it is always better to quote (better a useless quotation - and they are rarely useless - than a case of proven plagiarism)"** <http://www.univ-angers.fr/en/you-are-student-e/exams/plagiarism.html>.

Some questions to ask yourself



source: traduit d'après la page <https://www.univ-angers.fr/fr/vous-etes/etudiant-e/examens/plagiat/conseils.html> .

## Protecting yourself = widely disseminating your work

Making your work as widely available as possible protects you from plagiarism. This approach is part of the open access movement, which aims to share research conclusions for free, whether published or not, to advance science and promote direct scientific communication without financial barriers. You can upload your work on open archive platforms such as HAL or TEL (for theses). According to Laurence Leroux and Alexandre Serres:

*"The more a text is referenced and visible on the Net, the more difficult it is to plagiarize it. Plagiarism detection software bases its analysis on the documents available online on open access sites. The upload date in an open archive is authentic, and allows the authorship of one's work to be legally proven."<sup>5</sup>*

### React!

- Contact the plagiarist by e-mail, requesting the immediate withdrawal of the plagiarized elements and remind them of the consequences of plagiarism (templates exist).
- Inform your thesis supervisor and your laboratory director so that they can take care of the procedure.

### Some specialized sites

- Plagiarism website: <http://www.plagiarism.org>
- Harvard Guide! <https://usingsources.fas.harvard.edu/>
- U Ottawa Guide <https://www.uottawa.ca/library/writing-citing/avoid-plagiarism-academic-fraud>

### University and school plagiarism pages and quizzes

- Polytechnique Montréal : <https://etudiant.polymtl.ca/plagiat/en/test-your-knowledge-about-plagiarism>
- Sherbrooke: <https://www.usherbrooke.ca/enseigner/passeurs-dintegrite/ressources/antiplagiat/>
- Namur: <https://www.unamur.be/plagiat/>
- Cambridge : <https://www.plagiarism.admin.cam.ac.uk/>
- See also: [https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logiciel\\_de\\_gestion\\_bibliographique](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logiciel_de_gestion_bibliographique)

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<sup>5</sup> Leroux, Laurence, Serres, Alexandre. "Le plagiat". In UEB (Université Européenne de Bretagne). *Form@doct.* Rennes: UEB, September 2012 (last updated 30 November 2017). Available at: <http://guides-formadoct.ueb.eu/plagiarism>